

## Shin Family Files Wrongful Death Lawsuit

By Qian Wang

The family of Elizabeth H. Shin '02, who committed suicide in April 2000, filed a wrongful death civil lawsuit against MIT and its employees on Monday, claiming damages of \$27.65 million. The family alleges that MIT administrators, medical workers and campus police officers acted with gross negligence and failed to provide adequate care to their daughter.

David Deluca, the lawyer representing the Shin family, said at a press conference Monday at the law firm of Murphy, Hesse, Toomey, and Lehan that MIT violated its own regulations and did not properly treat Elizabeth. "In this case, MIT acted against its own policy. Elizabeth was not seen and treated when she should have been," Deluca said.

The suit names MIT, MIT Medical mental health doctors Peter Reich, M.D., Linda Cunningham, M.D., Kristine A. Gerard, M.D., Lili A. Gottfried, M.D., and Anthony Van Niel, M.D. as defendants. In addition, Associate Dean Arnold R. Henderson, Associate Dean Ayida Mthembu, Random Hall housemaster Nina Davis-Millis, former Chief of Campus Police Anne P. Glavin, CP dispatcher Orlando Tirella, and Officer Paul Valentino are named in the suit. The complaint also lists



Cho Hyun and Kisuk Shin discuss the death of their daughter, Elizabeth H. Shin '02, with reporters Monday. The Shins are suing MIT for \$27 million, claiming that MIT failed to deal properly with Elizabeth Shin's mental health prior to her April 2000 suicide.

John and Jane Doe as defendants, leaving the possibility for further named defendants in the future.

Cho Hyun and Kisuk Shin, Elizabeth's parents, strongly believe that MIT failed to prevent their

daughter's death. At the press conference, Cho Hyun Shin called the university's mental health services "below substandard."

Jeffrey Swopes, MIT's lawyer for the case, issued a press release

denying all the charges brought forth against the Institute. "The death of Elizabeth Shin was a tragedy — for this bright young woman, her family

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## Ashdown Fighting Clay Plan

By Harold Fox  
STAFF REPORTER

Graduate students reacted strongly this week to the proposal of Chancellor Philip L. Clay PhD '75 to house 140 undergraduates in graduate dorms to relieve overcrowding. Ashdown students in particular were up in arms about a proposal to section off a portion of their dorm for undergraduates.

"It is recognized among undergraduates and graduate students alike that Ashdown is the center of the graduate community," said Jennifer M. Farver G, Ashdown House president and co-chair of the Graduate Student Council (GSC) Housing and Community Activities Committee.

Hundreds of students have signed a petition protesting the use of graduate dorms to house undergraduates. Posters have been placed all over campus, and a huge Christmas light banner has been hung over Ashdown's front courtyard proclaiming, "Save Ashdown."

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## Fourth West, MIT Working To Avoid Future Incidents

By Kevin R. Lang  
NEWS EDITOR

Fourth floor residents of East Campus' west parallel are working with housemasters and MIT administrators to prevent future problems after campus police found a marijuana plant in the room of Peter N. Merckx '04 on Jan. 9.

Hall co-chair Cristina M. Costantino '03 said that the hall was waiting to hear the administration's decision on Feb. 4, but "so far they have been very understanding."

Costantino said MIT was disappointed that some students on the hall knew the marijuana plant existed and did not report it to administrators. Several residents confirmed that the plant belonged to Merckx, who began living on Fourth West in September. Merckx is no longer living on the hall.

Residents said they hoped to work with administrators to ensure that one student's actions would not implicate the entire hall in the future. "We are working very hard with the administration," Costantino said.

Another Fourth West resident said she was pleased with the progress thus far. "I'm actually pretty satisfied with what the administration is doing," said Sarah W. Low '02. "We all really like where we live, and we don't want to have to move."

Low said hall residents were upset that that entire hall was being implicated for one student's actions.

Fourth West resident Jessica H. Harvey '02 agreed. "The only per-

son who did anything wrong was Peter," Harvey said. "We did nothing wrong." She said that after Merckx was caught, "he tried to make it look like other people were involved" when speaking to administrators.

After speaking to both housemasters and Assistant Dean Carol Orme-Johnson, Harvey said that Orme-Johnson "said that we as a hall are not in trouble."

"That's the good thing that's coming out of this — we're definitely talking to each other more and pulling together more," Harvey said.

### Keg not registered to any resident

Several Fourth West residents confirmed that the keg found by campus police was empty, and had been sitting in the "Elvis shrine" closet for some time.

"The keg in the closet was empty," Costantino said.

Low said that the keg was not bought by anyone from Fourth West. "No one really knows how it got here," Low said. She said that Campus Police confirmed that it was not registered to any residents of the hall. Low did not think that the keg was a primary concern for MIT. "It hasn't really been mentioned in our meetings [with administrators]," Low said.

### Cause of fire alarms uncertain

No specific causes for the two fire alarms which led to the discovery of the marijuana plant and beer

Fourth West, Page 8

## Prelims Set Stage for 6.270 Thursday

By Amerson Lin

The 2002 Autonomous Robot Design Competition (6.270) got off to a roaring start as 60 teams clashed during Monday's preliminary round.

In the preliminary round, teams competed against another on a playing field, and each team had to attain at least one point to qualify for the next round of competition. Since the entire competition is based on double elimination, the results of these

preliminaries will matter a great deal for the coming rounds.

The final round of the 6.270 competition will be this Thursday, Jan. 31, in 26-100 at 6 p.m. All robots will be impounded on Jan. 30.

This year's task is to gain points by dropping colored balls into one of two holes on the playing field. The balls stack up in a tube underneath the hole, and the position of each ball in the tube from the bottom determines its point worth. For

example, the fourth ball from the bottom would be worth four points.

### Preliminaries test strategies

The teams in the competition chose varied strategies to use in the algorithms for their robots. Aaron M. Sokoloski '05 chose to go for a total offensive as his team's robot was exceptionally powerful. After getting the easy balls in, the robot would

6.270, Page 16

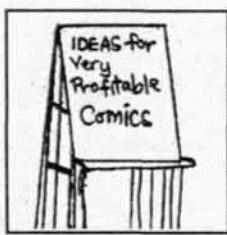


Joshua C. Randall '02 (L) and Joshua H. Lifton G (R) thumb wrestle for Helena's love in a loosely interpreted scene from Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. The Shakespeare Ensemble, in their aptly named production *Insert Title of Show Here*, presented scenes from a variety of Shakespeare's works Friday and Saturday night.



Mike Albert '69 speaks at a forum on war and the media.

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Comics

### OPINION

Stephanie Wang discusses how the flag has become a symbol of all that is wrong with America.

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# WORLD & NATION

## \$80 Million Frozen So Far in Terrorism War, Officials Say

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

Four months into the United States' financial war on terrorism, federal authorities have helped freeze \$80 million in terrorist money worldwide, arrested at least 11 people, secured three indictments and seized more than \$12.5 million, officials said Tuesday.

Their efforts have also resulted in more than 200 ongoing criminal investigations into groups and individuals suspected of financing terrorist activities since the Sept. 11 attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. Some of those probes focus on al-Qaida, Osama bin Laden's terrorist network, while others target apparently unrelated terrorist organizations operating in the United States and abroad.

Of the \$80 million, about \$34 million has been frozen in the United States and the remaining \$46 million by allies overseas.

Authorities said it was hard to quantify how much of an impact they have had on the financial lifelines relied upon by terrorists. But they said there are indications that al-Qaida is suffering greatly as a result of the crackdown.

## Japanese Foreign Minister Fired

THE WASHINGTON POST

SHANGHAI

Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi Tuesday sacked the most popular member of his cabinet, Foreign Minister Makiko Tanaka, ending a nine-month political brawl in which Tanaka repeatedly took on the entrenched world of Japanese bureaucrats, lawmakers and company executives.

Speaking in Tokyo Tuesday night, Tanaka said Koizumi had told her she was being dismissed to keep the latest installment of the squabbles from stalling passage of the budget for the coming fiscal year.

Koizumi "asked me to agree to personnel changes," Tanaka told a group of reporters in a televised interview. "I asked if that meant me, if I was being replaced, and he said that's right." There was no immediate word on who would replace Tanaka, the first woman to hold Japan's top foreign policy job.

During her time in office, Tanaka clashed again and again with career diplomats in her foreign ministry and was known for a shoot-from-the-lip style that endeared her to voters, but also earned enemies.

## Olympics Asks for 60 More Law Enforcement Officers

LOS ANGELES TIMES

SALT LAKE CITY

In a bid to further shore up security at next month's Winter Olympics, organizers have asked federal officials for as many as 60 added law enforcement personnel, authorities said Tuesday.

The additional officers, who would supplement a force of 10,000 police and military personnel already committed to the Games, would be deployed at transit hubs and open-air spaces.

Crowds are expected to gather nightly on the mall to take in Olympic action on big-screen televisions that will be set up at either end of Main Street. The upscale mountain resort will play host to the snowboard and alpine giant slalom events during the Games, which begin Feb. 8.

Attorney General John Ashcroft, who toured the Olympic facilities two weeks ago to get an overview of the \$310 million security plan, was concerned about the vulnerability of open-air parks and gathering spots that are separate from the venues used for Olympic competitions, according to an official who asked not to be identified.

# Bush Vows to Defeat Terror, Warns of Terrorists at Large

By Amy Goldstein and Mike Allen  
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

President Bush warned Congress and the nation Tuesday night that the country will long remain vulnerable to terrorism, as he pledged to devote the second year of his presidency to the twin goals of combating the recession at home and enemies abroad.

In his first State of the Union address, Bush laid out a justification for a longer and broader war against terrorism that would expand into a campaign to instill education and democratic values in the Islamic world.

The president portrayed the threat in stark terms, disclosing that American forces in Afghanistan have found diagrams of U.S. nuclear power plants and that "tens of thousands of trained terrorists are still at large." He said that hostile nations, including North Korea, Iraq and Iran, represent "an axis of evil" and is attempting to make nuclear, biological and chemical weapons.

Seeking support for the largest increase in defense spending in two

decades, which he will request in the budget the White House is to release in four days, Bush said "The United States of America will not permit the world's most dangerous regimes to threaten us with the world's most destructive weapons."

Bush also used the 48-minute prime-time address to outline his strategy for prodding the United States back to prosperity. He said he would strive to create new opportunities for work, cushion the impact of unemployment, and foster a new ethic of volunteerism within communities across the country.

"As we gather tonight, our nation is at war, our economic is in recession and the civilized world faces unprecedented dangers," Bush said in a confident, but subdued tone that characterized much of his speech. "Yet the state of our union has never been stronger."

The speech, delivered under extraordinary security in the ornate House chamber, essentially marked the opening of a third chapter in Bush's young presidency — a chapter in which he will seek to leverage the surge of public support for his performance since the Sept. 11

attacks into an enlarged war on terrorism and a string of domestic accomplishments.

Bush listed an array of domestic objectives the White House hopes to attain this year. They include expanded unemployment benefits, improved preschool and teacher training programs, greater protection of pensions and a list of health care proposals ranging from patients' rights to prescription drug benefits to tax credits for people without insurance or jobs.

Sounding mindful of the divisive politics that often typify election years, the president exhorted Congress to embrace his domestic agenda with "the same spirit of cooperation we have applied to our war on terrorism." For their part, Democrats Tuesday night also struck a collaborative tone, as House Minority Leader Dick Gephardt, D-Mo., said in his party's official response that lawmakers "need to put partisanship aside and work together to solve the problems that face us."

The president also asked ordinary people to adopt the same kind of cooperativeness in their own lives and their neighborhoods.

# Israeli Officials Plan Protection

## Fences, Roadblocks, Ditches Are Included In New Security Plans

By Marjorie Miller  
LOS ANGELES TIMES

JERUSALEM

Israeli security chiefs presented plans to the government Tuesday to surround Jerusalem with fences, roadblocks, ditches and foot patrols to prevent more of the Palestinian suicide bombings that have wreaked havoc in the city in recent weeks.

The National Security Council's plan, known as "Enveloping Jerusalem," also calls for checkpoints and electronic surveillance between West and East Jerusalem that critics say will in effect repartition the contested city without ensuring Israeli security.

The government denies that

there will be any physical or de facto division of Jerusalem between Jewish and Palestinian neighborhoods, but it acknowledges that movement into, out of and around the city would be more difficult under the plan.

"The concept is to put an obstacle on the road of those who are trying to penetrate the city for terrorist activities. But a wall inside the city, that's nonsense," said Raanan Gissin, a spokesman for Prime Minister Ariel Sharon. "It will not be easy for the Palestinian residents of East Jerusalem, nor for the Jewish population. Everyone will have to contend with the new measures."

Police and security officials reportedly had proposed fences or walls to divide parts of Jerusalem. But for Sharon and right-wing members of his government, a wall would signal a willingness by Israel to cede part of the city to the Pales-

tinians and would symbolize a return to pre-1967 borders, before Israel captured East Jerusalem and the West Bank from Jordan.

Palestinian officials denounced the Jerusalem plan, saying that the city's security problems cannot be solved with more checkpoints and border patrols.

"It is a long, open border, and the ones who do these operations inside Israel know all the ways and means to get in," said Ziad abu Ziad, the Palestinian Authority minister responsible for Jerusalem affairs. "This will not help. What will help everybody is to find a solution to the conflict."

The Jerusalem security plan was drafted months ago but shelved until a bombing Sunday on downtown Jaffa Street that left 2 people dead. It was the second attack on Jaffa Street in six days and the seventh in central Jerusalem in less than 15 months.

# WEATHER

## A Bite of Reality

By Robert Korty  
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

It's the end of January, and the Charles River is ice-free between the Back Bay and MIT. And, after a record high of 64°F (18°C) yesterday, this January is destined to be one of the warmest on record. But if the intermittent snowfall Boston has received this winter has yet to satiate your appetite for wintry precipitation, fear not. This week will have at least one day of weather to please almost everyone.

Low pressure organizing across the central Great Plains today will track northeast to New York state by Thursday night. Meanwhile, a shallow, surface wedge of cold air over Maine and Nova Scotia will slide down the coast today; temperatures will be 35°F (20°C) colder by this weekend than they were yesterday. As the storm tracks east, precipitation will begin to fall through the cold surface layer giving us snow and sleet Thursday. As the winds shift to a southerly flow overnight Thursday, the cold airmass will be eroded, and the precipitation will turn to a mix of snow, sleet, freezing rain, and then turn over to rain as temperatures rise to 40°F (4°C) by Friday morning.

Friday's warming will be short lived, though; as the storm passes into the Gulf of Maine, strong northwesterly winds on its backside will usher in the coldest air of the season. Though, that's not saying much, considering how warm this season has been.

### Extended Forecast

**Today:** Rain, possibly mixing with snow, ending early this afternoon, then remaining mostly cloudy. Much cooler, with a high near 40°F (4°C).

**Tonight:** Cloudy. Low of 26°F (-3°C).

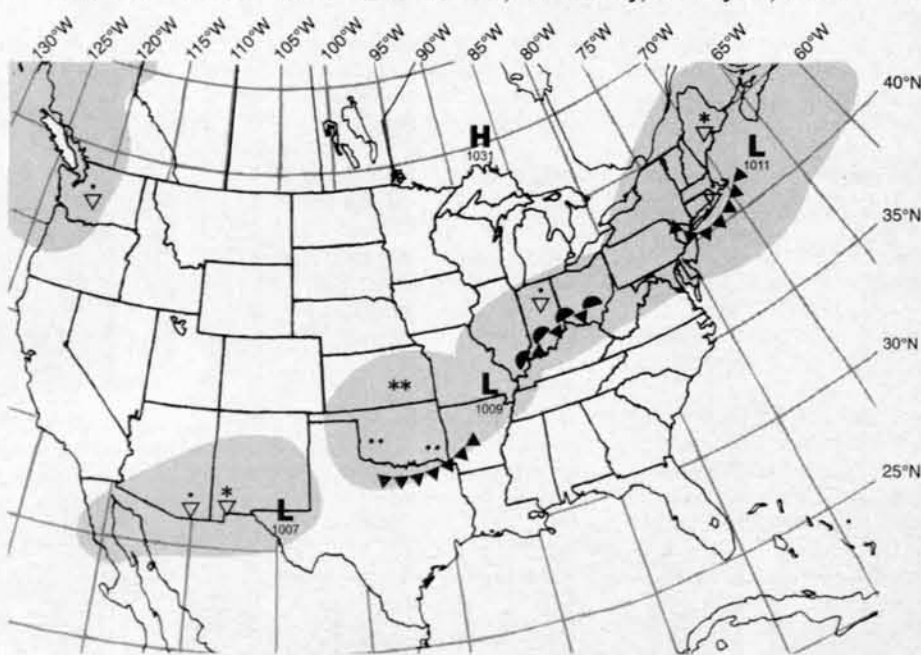
**Thursday:** Snow developing during the morning, mixing with sleet and freezing rain, and then rain late. Precipitation may be heavy; several inches of snow and ice accumulation are possible by evening, but exact amounts will depend upon the ratio of snow to ice. Temperatures will hold in the upper 20s F (-3 to -1°C).

**Thursday night:** Snow and ice mixing with rain, then turning to all rain before dawn. Temperatures rising into the mid 30s F (1 to 2°C) by dawn.

**Friday:** Rain ending early, then clearing. Windy, with a high near 43°F (6°C).

**Weekend:** Windy and cold. Highs near 30°F (-1°C); lows 15 to 20°F (-9 to -6°C).

Situation for Noon Eastern Standard Time, Wednesday, January 30, 2002



Weather Systems	Weather Fronts	Precipitation Symbols	Other Symbols
H High Pressure	—•—•— Trough	☉ Snow	☁ Fog
L Low Pressure	—•—•— Warm Front	☂ Rain	⚡ Thunderstorm
§ Hurricane	—▲▲▲ Cold Front	☂ Light	☁ Haze
	—▲▲▲ Stationary Front	☂ Moderate	
		☂ Heavy	

Compiled by MIT Meteorology Staff and The Tech



# Paucity of Cargo Flight Rules Pose Serious Security Problem

By Greg Schneider

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

The new airport security law that sets strict guidelines for screening passengers and their luggage does not impose similar requirements on air cargo, prompting pilots to warn of a potential weak link in the system.

Freight and mail is carried in the belly of most passenger planes and should get the same amount of scrutiny as checked baggage, say pilots and aviation experts. In addition, they say that all-cargo planes, full of boxes instead of passengers, should step up security.

"There's usually a minimum amount of security around cargo

operations because of the historically low amount of potential for terror," said Capt. Steve Luckey of the Air Line Pilots Association. It was always assumed that terrorists were only interested in striking passenger planes to take hostages.

But the attacks of Sept. 11, in which planes were used as missiles, showed that a cargo plane "has the same potential to create damage as one full of people does," said Luckey, a Northwest Airlines pilot who chairs the national security committee of the pilots association. The association has raised the issue with the government and intends to keep pursuing it, he added.

The Transportation Security Administration, created by Congress

to set up the new security system, acknowledged that air cargo is not getting top priority now, as officials race to meet deadlines for screening passengers and their luggage.

Most passenger planes carry cargo in whatever space is not occupied by luggage. Some 60 percent of all U.S. air cargo flies on passenger planes, but no more than 4 percent of cargo is currently screened for dangerous items, according to John Magaw, head of the security agency.

Congress required Magaw's agency to screen all passenger luggage in some fashion earlier this month, and it set a deadline of the end of the year for subjecting the luggage to bomb-scanning machines.

# Pakistan Decides Not to Press Charges Against Suspected Nuclear Terrorists

By Peter Baker

and Kamran Khan

THE WASHINGTON POST

LAHORE, PAKISTAN

Pakistan has decided not to press criminal charges against two of its nuclear scientists whose reported contacts with Osama bin Laden stirred fears of nuclear terrorism, according to officials and a lawyer involved in the case.

Although Pakistani authorities concluded the scientists violated a secrecy oath during trips into Taliban-controlled Afghanistan, the government decided they would not have been able to give away critical information necessary to build a bomb. A trial, officials said, would generate further international

embarrassment and risk disclosure of Pakistan's nuclear secrets.

"Every thing that relates to our nuclear program is a state secret," said a senior Pakistani official, who spoke on condition of anonymity. "By talking to Osama and his folks in Afghanistan, the scientists broke their oath to secrecy, yet we were forced to ignore their action in the best interest of the nation."

The scientists, Sultan Bashiruddin Mahmood and Abdul Majid, will remain under government control as part of a deal worked out for their release from strict detention. They are currently living in a safe house in the capital, Islamabad, and restricted in their travels and communications. Mahmood's family,

which went to court seeking his release following his arrest last fall, agreed to the arrangement and on Monday withdrew a legal complaint filed here in Lahore, the family's home town.

"There was a settlement. It was a mutual understanding between him and the government," said the family's lawyer, Mohammed Ismaeel Qureshy. "They are not prisoners. What was communicated to me was they were under protective custody for their own protection."

Pakistan's president, Gen. Pervez Musharraf, made the decision to forgo prosecution. His government assured U.S. officials that they would have access to the scientists for further questioning if needed.

## Kidnappers Used False IDs, E-Mail Trails on Journalist

THE WASHINGTON POST

KARACHI, PAKISTAN

Kidnappers who abducted an American correspondent here six days ago led him into a trap using fake identities, cell phones bought under false names and e-mails sent from hard-to-trace Internet cafe connections, Pakistani law enforcement officials said Tuesday.

After two weeks of e-mails, telephone calls and a clandestine hotel meeting with a man claiming to be an intermediary, reporter Daniel Pearl of the Wall Street Journal took a taxi to a downtown Karachi restaurant early last Wednesday evening believing he was going to meet the leader of a fundamentalist Islamic organization based in Pakistan. Instead, the interview offer turned out to be a hoax by abductors who then used the e-mail address, "kidnapperguy," to notify several news organizations that Pearl had been kidnapped.

"Only a well-trained intelligence organization or an equally professional terrorist group could (carry out) such a well-planned kidnapping," a senior Karachi police investigator said.

The kidnapping took place the day after a Pakistani reporter for Time magazine was detained in Karachi by people whose identities have not been revealed, then released more than 30 hours later. Time representatives have declined to discuss the details of reporter Ghulam Hasnain's detention.

## Particle Accelerator Endorsed By Physicists

NEWSDAY

WASHINGTON

A group of physicists is recommending that the United States help build a large new particle accelerator as the next big step to understanding the basic building blocks and forces in the universe.

The group estimates the new machine, a linear collider roughly 18 to 20 miles long, would cost from \$5 billion to \$7 billion. It would collide electrons and their anti-matter counterparts, called positrons. The costly machine will require international collaboration, the group said, much as is happening at a circular collider, 16.6 miles in circumference, now being built in an existing tunnel at CERN, the European particle physics laboratory near Geneva.

There is an international consensus on the need for a next-generation linear machine to complement the research scheduled to get under way at the new CERN machine in 2006, physicists said this week at a meeting here of the Department of Energy's High Energy Physics Advisory Panel.

A subgroup of the panel delivered a 20-year road map for U.S. high-energy particle physics, including the call for support of the linear collider. It said more research and development will be required before the United States can mount a bid to host the machine, which also is being sought by Germany and Japan.

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# Fear Of the Flag

Stephanie W. Wang

I have always been thankful that Silicon Valley is not known for that good old yankee doodle spirit of ignorant patriotism. Imagine my shock as I was greeted with a deluge of American flags flashing before me on the ride from San Francisco airport during winter break. Wasn't this a place of nerds and Gordon Gekkos who only believed in science, technology, and the almighty buck? A place where hard-working immigrants flocked to realize their American dream and preserve their culture at the same time? Had the bursting of the economic bubble led them to place that faith in this country and its "impressive" military-industrial complex out of convenience? Or is there a much more sinister reason?

I refuse to believe that the overwhelming mass of people who have affixed American flags to their garage doors, roofs, cars, T-shirts, and even shoes were compelled to do so by a new-found love for their country. Furthermore, I don't think they rushed to the store to buy these flags because they undoubtedly support the unconditional freedom that the flag purports to symbolize. No, they decorate their lives with the flag to announce, "I am not one of them. I am one of you." They are afraid of social stigma, political condemnation, and perhaps most of all, cultural exclusion. The American flag has become their way of capitulating to the blatant jingoism spellbinding this nation.

With all that said, it's easy to understand why these people are waving the flags for all the wrong reasons. The immigrants who cannot stop seeing and hearing the discrimination that has begun to engulf them must renounce their "foreignness." Some factions among all those born and raised on this land have been indoctrinated with the "perfect America" propaganda. Of course, most

opportunisticly, the industries have cooperated very well with the military cries of rallying behind the country by churning out all possible love-thy-exalted-country paraphernalia. It's easy to create demand when the consumers are afraid of what will happen to them if they don't demand. After all, the T-shirts are really screaming, "united we stand ... against all who dare to differ." Unfortunately, the flag no longer symbolizes freedom and all that is right with this country; the flag has become a reminder of all that is wrong with this country.

Perhaps when I call for an end to this American flag madness, you will use that ever-present First Amendment trump card to silence me. Let me state in unequivocal terms the irony of that strategy, because I fervently support the First Amendment. It is for my love of the rights so astoundingly iterated

*How do I not be conflicted when I see a small American flag stuffed in the glove compartment of my parents' car? What am I supposed to say to them? What can I possibly do?*

in this amendment that I am against this trend of the ubiquitous "I belong" sign. The American flag no longer symbolizes the expression of beliefs. Rather, it now represents the expression of the lack of belief, the lack of dissent, the willingness to disown convictions to escape persecution. I

have absolutely no problem with all those who shout opinions which differ from mine at the top of their lungs. What I really fear is that the flags are beginning to stifle these

shouts. This is not the American flag that unifies; it is the American flag that stupefies.

There seems to be no escape from this horrifying frenzy of superficial support for America and her causes, both just and unjust. Perhaps they are just decorations for the car; perhaps they are just T-shirts; perhaps they are just decorations for the house along with the holiday lights. However, I can't help but think how many times all these American flags may just give a misguided jingoist that extra courage to commit hate crimes. I can't help but

wonder if this fake security blanket slowly but surely shaping the landscape will put us in more danger in the end. After all, forced patriotism, and no mistake about it, this phenomenon is indeed that, has blinded so many in the past to the unbelievable horrors of genocide and categorical persecution. Could another Japanese internment camp situation arise, only with a different race this time? If the flag-waving continues, it may just drown out the protests of those who sincerely cherish the freedoms this country promised to its people.

So what are we to do? How do I respond to my horror when confronted with cars sporting the flags, bigger and bigger in size, as if it was the new phallic symbol of brute dominance? How do I not be conflicted when I see a small American flag stuffed in the glove compartment of my parents' car? What am I supposed to say to them? What can I possibly do? What I can do now is to speak out against what I cannot abide by: social inertia. There must be a distinct line drawn between expressions of loss and hasty acts justifiable only by the mob mentality. That line has been conveniently blurred with the vaunting of the American flag for the military-industrial complex which seeks to dilute and obliterate the thoughts we should all have the freedom to express.

# Up With Drop Posters!

Guest Column  
Peter A. Shulman

I was dismayed by "Drop Posters May Be Replaced" [January 23], in which *The Tech* reported the debate over the future appearance of Lobby 7 and its housing of drop posters — or not.

Both Professor Reiter and Director Gallagher miss the point. In his reference to Lobby 7 as "the front door to MIT," Reiter calls for a lobby that "should be very streamlined and contemporary." Gallagher calls drop posters "not respectful of the space, quite frankly." The article then describes some kind of (surely expensive and nonexistent) electronic projection system to replace drop posters.

Are they serious? Not respectful to whom?

*MIT is not a large, multinational organization, and its lobby should reflect what makes it unique (its students) and not a forced sterility and impotence more appropriate for the corporate world. And the cost of this myopic plan?*

Must the Administration control every form of student expression on campus? Whose Institute is this, anyway?

Hey students, wake up. These quotes aren't from one interest group among equals — these are the people making the decisions.

MIT is not a large, multinational organization, and its main lobby should reflect what makes it unique (its students) and not a forced sterility and impotence more appropriate for the corporate world.

And the cost? Perhaps the expected donations and Institute funds (ten of thousands of dollars? more?) expected for this myopic plan might instead be invested in the student life and learning initiatives so desperately clamoring for support — student activities, a dining system that works, permanent solutions to dorm overcrowding, better financial aid packages — than in this superficial and self-indulgent architectural plan.

Before anything else, the Institute is a place of learning — not simply for its more than 10,000 students and nearly 1,000 faculty, but for the myriad of staff, administrators, and visitors who lay claim to our shared intellectual treasure. But more than anything else, what distinguishes our campus from its corporate colleagues is the vibrancy of student life that pulses through its corridors and courtyards. Though a seemingly minor manifestation of that life, drop posters actually form one of the few visible reminders that we live and work, discover and innovate, create and experience — in a place of learning. Until their "temporary" suspension for the lobby's renovation last year, drop posters captured the spirit of student activities, alerted regulars and visitors to the coming week's events, provided income for the service organization that provided the raw materials at a nominal fee, and more than anything else — humanized the stark neoclassical skeleton of the Institute.

As Building 7 memorializes the Institute's illustrious founder, William Barton Rogers, perhaps we could turn to him for guidance. In a letter to his brother Henry written during the hectic but electrifying first year that MIT opened its doors in Boston in 1865, Rogers noted his frustration for having to handle (while simultaneously teaching the first class of MIT students and administering the fledgling university) the construction of an additional story to what was then MIT's sole building: "These architects," wrote Rogers, "are great plagues when they persist in disregarding utility for the sake of their notions of outside appearances..."

It's time to remember Rogers' vision for a place of learning. I think it's time students start putting up drop posters again. It's not only their university, you know — it's their home, too.

Peter A. Shulman G is a former president of the Undergraduate Association.

# Modern Prohibition

Christen M. Gray

Why is it that some drugs are legal and others are not? Alcohol, by definition, is a drug. It can cause long-term damage to the liver, occasionally leading to the need for transplants; people can become so intoxicated that they pass out and die, and after consuming it people often make poor choices ending in tragedy.

In the past there have been two solutions offered to this problem. Once, in 1920, it was decided that as a drug, alcohol should be illegal. That "Noble Experiment" was Prohibition. The effect of Prohibition was the creation of an even more dangerous underground. Organized crime profited from the making and selling of illegal alcohol. Occasionally the "moonshine" created in someone's basement would be deadly itself. While alcohol was under a blanket ban, it could not be safely monitored or regulated. All parties seemed to agree that the Noble Experiment was a failure.

However, alcohol is not the issue today. The drugs that have been centered on in the last few years are marijuana and ecstasy. There is a large movement for the legalization of marijuana. And why not? After all, how many reports of people being hit by "high" drivers do you hear on the news? If we spent half as much money on regulation as we currently do on trying to keep the stuff out, we would have a much safer and taxable industry.

How about heroin? Heroin is an opiate, one of a class of mind-altering drugs. People have been trying to alter their consciousness throughout history. Even Einstein used opi-

ates, and it didn't seem to hurt his career. Whether you personally approve of their use or not, opiates will be used. In a country where such drugs are illegal, a ban creates a consuming and deadly black market.

What makes the topic of opiates even more interesting is the usage of methadone in

*The 'experiment' of legalizing drugs is not a novel idea; it has already been tried in other countries. Great Britain, the Netherlands, and Switzerland have all proven its merit.*

order to help heroin addicts get off heroin. Methadone is itself an opiate that blocks the receptors for the addict to get any "high" from heroin. In other words, they can't get high because they already are, but legally! What the methadone is supposed to do is enable the addict to get a stable job and normal life before having to deal with the withdrawal. In many states, methadone can only be prescribed to addicts through clinics. In order to get their "fix", the addict must be able to produce enough money a week to pay for the methadone (many clinics will not take insurance or welfare) as well as have the stability to go to the methadone clinic before work every day. Thus, addicts become functioning and productive members of society.

Now the question to be asked is, could they just simply arrange a similar distribution of heroin itself and have the same final result? Why should one opiate be legal while another is not? If the heroin were legal and regulated, overdoses among addicts would be less common. The addicts would also not have to spend the greater part of their time seeking out the drug in dangerous areas. Drug lords would not control the trade, capitalist companies would, reducing the amount of crime surrounding the trade.

But the illegal drugs are extra-bad, right? The government would only make them illegal if they were definitively more dangerous to our lives and our health, right? Wrong. According to studies involving the toxicity of nicotine versus marijuana, an adult can die from eating six cigarettes whereas it would require eating over 2,000 of the strongest marijuana cigarettes. As for alcohol, there is only a twenty-fold difference between an effective dose and an overdose.

The legalization of drugs in the U.S. would reduce crime and allow many who would otherwise waste their lives to have a better chance at being productive members of society.

The "experiment" of legalizing drugs is not a novel idea; it has already been tried in other countries. Great Britain, the Netherlands, and Switzerland have all proven the merit in legalizing and regulating various types of drugs including cocaine, heroin, and marijuana. Because such drugs are legal, these countries have much less drug-related crime.

Maybe, it is time to examine the roots and merits of our country's laws and our views on "social norms."



## IAP Events

**Ad Design Workshop**  
1/31 • 5:00 – 7:30 • 4-237



Refreshments at the door  
Dinner afterwards

**Open House**  
2/3 • 2:00 – 5:00 • W20-483



Food will be served

5 pm **News Meeting & Photo Meeting** 6 pm

Every Sunday  
During the term.  
W20-483



# Snow Falling On Churches

Dan Tortorice

The recent snowstorm reminded me of why I dislike the ACLU. It may be hard to believe that one could dislike an organization whose purported purpose is to promote civil liberties, but I do. My dislike stems from a winter a few years back when the ACLU filed a lawsuit against the town of Barrington, Rhode Island (not too far from my home town), challenging the town's practice of sending snowplows to the parking lots of religious institutions in the town. The plowing did not apply to only a select group of religious institutions, but to all in the town. Yet the ACLU saw this as an establishment of religion and threatened to take the town to court if they plowed the parking lots. So the town conceded and did not plow the lots.

It is not clear that the ACLU was on the correct side of the law. In *Agostini v. Felton* (1997) the Supreme Court, overturning a previous ruling, held that New York could pay public school teachers to also teach in parochial schools. The parallel to the snowplow case is clear. Just as states can aid religious institutions by sending them teachers, states can also aid religious institutions by sending them snowplows. The ruling affirms that government need no longer be com-

pletely separate from religion. It must only refrain from favoring one religion over another.

The ACLU also would have a hard time arguing that they were on the correct side of justice. Clearly if the town were plowing only the Episcopal Churches the ACLU could argue the government was establishing one religion over another, but this was not the case. They were plowing the lots of all religious institutions in the town. Likewise, there was no coercion of citizens. No one was forced to attend mass just because they could now get to the Catholic Church more easily.

Perhaps a stronger position for the ACLU to take would be to argue that the plowing was tantamount to an endorsement of religion. But I doubt they would remain consistent to this logic and also argue that providing police protection to marching Klansmen is a government endorsement of racism, that providing clean needles to heroine addicts is an endorsement of drug use, and providing condoms in high schools is an endorsement of statutory rape. Just because the government aids an individual in pursuing an activity does not mean the government approves, much less endorses, the activity. The plowing need not be seen as an endorsement of religion, but as an act of respect for the town's citizens. The government recognizes that reli-

gion is important to its citizens and provides them with means to explore religious beliefs if they wish.

Perhaps you may feel it is unjust to use taxpayer money for the snow removal. Clearly there are people who do not accept any religion; why should they have to pay to aid religions? Maybe this is unfair, but we never make this exception in any other aspect of society. The religious fundamentalist must still pay his property taxes, even though part of that money funds the teaching of evolution in our schools. I still must pay my taxes even if I object to its use in fighting the war in Afghanistan. The government often spends taxpayer money in ways that offend the principles of some taxpayers, even religious principles. And government does this with the blessing of the Supreme Court.

What the ACLU endorses, and what the Supreme Court has wisely moved away from, is a government that treats religion like an infectious agent. A government believing that if it has even the most neutral and minimal involvement with religion, this involvement will spread to the point where the government takes a stance on religion. Yet this is not true. By plowing the lots of all religious institutions the government is not taking a stance on religion. It does not say it is good to believe in God; rather, it says that if you wish to worship God we respect that and will

do what we can to let you exercise that choice. The ACLU desires government that is not at all neutral when it comes to religion. It falls squarely in the camp of the secularists. For in the government the ACLU wants, towns can give no aid to religions, allow religious symbols to be displayed on their land, or use their buildings for religious purposes. This government is exactly the government we would have if the government espoused the values of agnostics. Intentionally or unintentionally, government should not favor one belief system over another. Instead it should encourage people of all faiths and all people without faith to express the convictions of their hearts and carry out the search for meaning in this complex world.

If it were that I just disagreed with the ACLU's position, I would not have contempt for the institution. I dislike the ACLU because on one hand they claim to be the champion of civil liberties but on the other hand sue institutions knowing these institutions would rather concede to the ACLU's demands than face an expensive, drawn-out court battle. In the case of Barrington, Rhode Island, the courts may very well have upheld up the snowplowing. But the town conceded, rather than fighting the ACLU in court. By using these legal intimidation tactics the ACLU enforces not America's civil liberties, but their own self-determined civil liberties.

## Giving Something Back to Grads

Guest Column  
Christina Silcox

Chancellor Clay's letter about the "opportunity" of the overcrowding situation in undergraduate dormitories gave us graduate students quite a few shocks. First, I suppose, was the idea that undergraduates having to live without study rooms in their dorms was enough reason to kick graduate students out of their own homes! Quickly following that shocker was the administration's thought process that they could take away any number of graduate beds in Sidney and Pacific and the graduate body would still be thankful because they would still have more beds next year than they did this year. Well, perhaps we are ungrateful, but imagine your boss promised you a 20 percent raise starting with your next paycheck. However, when you opened the envelope on payday you discovered only a 15 percent raise. They gave five percent of it to the person in the desk next to you but that's okay, right? You still got a raise, right? Wrong.

Then Chancellor Clay explained that this was actually the fair solution because if we looked at the situation "in context" we would realize that in twenty years MIT had not built any undergraduate dorms but had built three graduate dorms. Not mentioned, though, was the reason. Perhaps it was because there has been an ever-increasing demand for graduate housing and basically none for undergraduate housing?

What we believe the administration needs



to understand is if they want to take away 140 beds, we want concessions in return. We want an iron-clad guarantee that in the future the size of the freshman class will be controlled to an extent that it can be housed in undergraduate residences. We want an extra housing allowance added to our stipend so we can live in "the high rents and limited supply [of the apartments] in Cambridge" that would be such a burden to

the undergraduates. We want heavily subsidized or free off-campus parking permits for graduate students who have to move to Somerville to find affordable housing. We want a guarantee that the number of graduate beds given to undergraduates will be significantly reduced each year with a maximum duration of 4 years (if the problem is over-enrollment and the situation is resolved starting with this incoming class, 4 years

should be all that is needed). Most of all we want assurances that graduate beds will stop being considered undergraduate beds-in-waiting.

Finally, if we are expected to see this as an opportunity as well as a problem, place undergraduates in the graduate residences who can integrate with the graduate community, not ones who need to be walled off from us. Do not take away a room that already belongs to a particular graduate student, earned through the notoriously difficult-to-win continuing student lottery. And do not touch the graduate residence that stands as an example to the rest of us, Ashdown.

Make no mistake; we don't think that any graduate beds should be given to undergraduates. Crowding has been happening for over ten years and simple admissions attention can solve the problem in another three to four years. Why can't this overcrowding issue resolve itself? Especially since, unless voluntarily continued, no undergraduate is forced into an overcrowding situation for more than their freshman year. Is that inconvenience really important enough to cost a graduate student around \$300 extra a month to live off-campus and untold amounts in the loss of the ability to live in and belong to a graduate student community?

Christina Silcox is a graduate student in the Department of Health Sciences and Technology and president of The Warehouse (NW30), a first-year grad dorm. Several residents and officers contributed to this column.

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# THE ARTS

## INTERVIEW

# Rufus Wainwright Explains His Music

Genre-Defying Crooner Reveals Roots in Opera, Folk

By Nina Kshetry

**S**inger/songwriter Rufus Wainwright spoke to *The Tech* via telephone from Los Angeles, explaining his musical influences and style. Wainwright is preparing for his upcoming tour, which kicks off in Boston at Avalon Ballroom on Friday, Feb. 8.

**TT:** Your parents are both folk musicians and you have a variety of musical interests from opera to classical. Can you explain what has influenced you the most in developing your particular style of music?

**RW:** It's been a lethal cocktail of all of those things you mentioned. On the one hand opera is my personal religion in music. When I go to the opera house it's like going to church, but that's a very personal thing. I've taken a lot from opera. But on the other hand I did grow up in such a musical house. Both of my parents are incredible musicians, and my sister and everybody around me was—I have to say that it has equal input. Also I went to music school and studied piano for a long time. So, yeah, I got a lot of different sides to it.

**TT:** You dropped out of music school, right?

**RW:** Yes.

**TT:** Did you find the time that you spent there helpful?

**RW:** Yes, I did. I got to do great things. I got to do a performance of Verdi's Requiem with a full orchestra and chorus. I was in the chorus. But essentially I got bored one day and just walked out. All my professors were sitting on the steps and they said, "Where are

you going?" and I said, "I'm gonna go make a record,"—and that's what happened.

**TT:** How would you describe your style of music to people who have never heard it, since it seems hard to categorize?

**RW:** Well, I don't know what it is either. I'm confused as well. I wish somebody could categorize it to me. I would like it to be considered good American songwriting. It's American songwriting.

**TT:** Since your music is different from mainstream music, do you find it hard to sell your albums?

**RW:** Well, I don't find it hard to sell my albums. People are always dying to buy my albums when they see me. I think that my record company and certain record stores have a hard time, but that is their problem.

**TT:** What would you say are the differences between your first CD and your second CD?

**RW:** The main difference is that the first one was very exclamatory. It was kind of [saying] "I am a great force arriving here with my orchestra and 80 xylophones. Here we go! Look out!" Which I had to do, and I was aware of that at the time. I could have made a solo piano record and it still would have been quite good, but I needed to open with a splash. For my second album I wanted something that was more subtle. Something you could play really loud and enjoy it, or have it in the background and it will lend something to the atmosphere. The last record, I found, tried to grab your attention so much that some people found it annoying, which is fine. But I wanted this one to be more seductive.

**TT:** How do you feel about being attached to a big record label? Do you find it restricts you in any way?

**RW:** Yes, it does in a certain way; it is a definite sacrifice. You have to appease record companies because they give you all that money. You are under contract to deliver something that they want to sell. But it is better for me to make that sacrifice now so that more people are aware of me, so that later I can take that bunny out of the hat. But for now it is necessary.

**TT:** Do you enjoy going on tour?

**RW:** Yeah, I need to go on tour in order to sell a record at this point. I like going on tour. It's grueling and it's exhausting and I go crazy, but it's a great honor to be able to play for people.

**TT:** Are you planning on playing any songs that aren't on your CDs on your upcoming tour?

**RW:** I don't plan on it, but you never know especially if you are doing an encore. You use what seems right at the time, and some of the other songs are good for that. One thing I do want to do is sing a lot of the songs from my soundtrack albums.

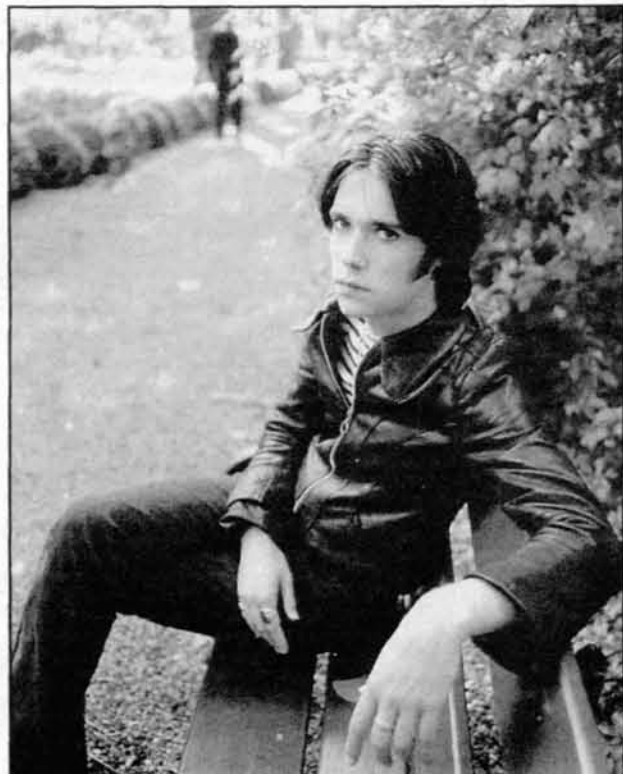
**TT:** Are you going to perform any songs from your

first CD?

**RW:** Yeah, I'll do a little bit of this, and I little bit of that. Mainly songs from my first cd, but you'll be happy don't worry.

**TT:** What advice can you give an aspiring songwriter on how to go about the process of making a song?

**RW:** I think the only advice I could give is that a great song has blood and guts and life experience and that you really have to lay it all down on the line. Music is fun and wonderful and happy, but it also requires pain, and you have to go through the pain in order to feel happy again.



Self proclaimed 'American songwriter' Rufus Wainwright tours starting Feb 8. at Avalon.

## RESTAURANT REVIEW

# Food of the Gods

SoHo meets the French Riviera

By Scott Lee

STAFF WRITER

Ambrosia on Huntington

Huntington Ave.

Back Bay, Boston

617-247-2400

Prices: Lunch \$10-\$20. Dinner \$22-\$38.

**S**oHo meets the French Riviera," is chef Anthony Ambrose's description of his own flagship restaurant on Huntington Avenue. The former refers to the décor and the latter to the food, reinforcing the feeling that fusion is occurring along multiple planes. From the bank-like entrance to the metallic, surreal, post-modern environs, it is as though one is entering a posh spaceship perched in the middle of an urban metropolis.

Once seated in our lunar landing modules, we were in awe of the array of dishes that whizzed past us to other tables. The edible Van Goghs and Matisse's on circular frames, proudly carried by their waiters, reached their destinations amidst tables of leaning and staring patrons.

We started with the half lobster over a Breton crêpe with smoky shiitake vinaigrette. This appetizer, which we agreed was more like a Kandinsky, had required the expertise of a florist, architect, painter, and culinary engineer. The lobster was succulent and the sauce a subtle complement to the natural flavor of the meat. The other appetizer we tried was the lobster sashimi and carrot mousse with vanilla and galangal. This too pleased the palate, yet the concept of lightly cooking the raw lobster with the broth seemed a bit suspect, especially with all the *giardia* and amoebas circulating these days. The print at the bottom of the menu—"consuming raw or undercooked seafood may increase your risk of food-borne illness"—did not deter us from the risks taken in bringing this article to you.

For the main course, we tried the pan-sauteed lamb rack on a layered Yukon celeriac potato cake with a spicy lamb coriander sauce. For all its fancy description, this lamb and potato dish was relatively well prepared. The fusion of a coriander-based sauce with meat and potatoes was novel. There could have been more lamb, as with all these *chichi* type restaurants, but the cuts were excellent and tender. Again, presentation made the piece all the more appetizing as the entourage of salivating neighbors peered at our table.

The second main course was the Norwegian salmon steak with a *nori* potato rosette and shiitake mushrooms in an aged sherry glaze. Again, the reduction was atypical with the combination of shiitake mushrooms. This dish, although elegantly prepared, was not as tasty as its presentation. The fusion here could have been improved with a spicier complement to the salmon. Nonetheless, the salmon was fresh, as though caught in Boston Harbor. On the whole, we were more impressed with the complexity of the appetizers and their presentation than the main courses, although the menu was generally thoughtful in construction.

Desserts—as expected—were decadent, rich, and prepared in the same post-modern tradition as the décor. A chocolate sculpture of ice cream and long sugar antennae was as fun to eat as it was to admire. The crème brûlée was standard. Its hard crust hid a rich vanilla and anise infused sea of sweet cream.

Ambrosia is an outstanding restaurant for a special occasion. The service was among the best we have received in Boston and truly commendable. The staff bent over backwards to please our every culinary whim. The ambience and food make for a surreal post-modern experience that will not be forgotten.

## MOVIE REVIEW ★★★½

# Bedroom Secrets

Spacek, Wilkinson Smolder in Gripping Drama

By Sandra M. Chung

ASSOCIATE ARTS EDITOR

Directed by Todd Field

Screenplay by Robert Festinger

Starring Tom Wilkinson, Sissy Spacek, Marisa Tomei, Nick Stahl

Rated R

**M**uch is to be said for films that convey their messages with honesty and depth. *In the Bedroom* is such a film, with a simple, predictable plot and everyday characters. The film's strengths consist of seamless directing and powerful performances by a talented cast that draws the audience into a story that is only too real.

*In the Bedroom* is set in a small fishing town in Maine, where the Fowlers lead a picturesque existence. Matt Fowler (Tom Wilkinson, *Shakespeare in Love*) is the Ivy League-educated town doctor; Ruth Fowler (Sissy Spacek, *Coal Miner's Daughter*) leads the local girls choir. Their son Frank (Nick Stahl, *Disturbing Behavior*), a gifted architecture student, is home from his first year of college and working his own lobster boat for the summer. Matt and Ruth shower love and support on their only child, though they disagree over Frank's relationship with Natalie Strout (Marisa Tomei, *My Cousin Vinny*), an attractive older woman with an estranged husband and two young children.

Frank begins to see what he initially considered a summer fling in a different light, though Natalie is unclear about the extent of her feelings for Frank. Their relationship is further complicated by Richard Strout (William Mapother, *Magnolia*), whose behavior becomes alarmingly volatile when Natalie refuses him a chance at repairing their failed marriage. Tension mounts until a shocking incident destroys the Fowlers' idyllic lives forever.

Acting, directing, and editing come together in such a way that the Fowlers' grief and rage assume the incredible power and beauty of a natural disaster. Wilkinson's and Spacek's performances erupt across the screen. Molten, searing waves of anguish flow as from a silent volcano. Matt wanders around town wraithlike, searching for answers or peace he cannot find. Ruth withdraws into

her shell of heartbreak, emerging only to lash out at her husband and the cruelty of the world.

The script bears no excess dialogue or clichés. Rather, the actors fill and expand the space around simple lines with intricate physicalities and subtleties of delivery that amplify the meanings of their words and actions tenfold. The tragedy extinguishes the humorous, loving light in Wilkinson's dark eyes. Spacek's expressive jaw tightens with anger and droops with motherly grief. Oscar winner Tomei hits exactly upon the right notes of womanliness and discomfort in her unique blend of mannerisms. Stahl exudes charm and confidence while simultaneously implying vulnerability and intelligence. A very capable supporting cast fleshes out the rest of the story in beautifully genuine detail.

Todd Field (*Once and Again*) complements the cast with his masterful direction. The film is paced in such a way that it alternately lulls viewers into numbness and hurls them to electrifying heights of intense emotion. Some parts seem excessively drawn out, but the spacing between major plot turns leaves ample time for the movie-goer to notice the incredible wealth of fine detail. For example, Field characterizes the Fowlers' lawyer chiefly through subtle visual hints, such as a childless family photo and impatient hands jangling keys in a pocket. The Fowlers' home is authentic and thorough in the microscopic stories each and every faucet, picture and knickknack tell about the family.

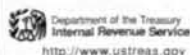
When something important finally happens, it comes about with such force as to rivet one's attention completely to the screen. That is not to say that every second of the film isn't heavy with the intense humanity of the characters and the seamless, eerie realism of their story. The strength of the actors' performances leaves it utterly impossible to avoid sensing the mirth, anger, jealousy, and grief radiating from their characters.

*In the Bedroom* is one among many independent films brought to widespread audiences this past year. It is also a drama of rare clarity. Its unique, intense, sometimes discomforting experience leaves one a little wounded or angered in the way that all good, serious stories do.



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# Chess Team Third at Pan-Ams

By Eston M. Kimani

The MIT Chess Team recently tied for third place in the Pan-American Intercollegiate Team Championship, the top college chess tournament in the Western hemisphere.

With their high Pan-Am finish, MIT is now among the top teams in U.S. college chess. MIT is currently an alternate for the President's Cup tournament, which features the four best college teams in the country.

"We did better than teams who fielded players on the same tier as ours, and so this was an important victory for us," said Elina Groberman '04, the current National US Women's Chess co-champion and president of the MIT Chess Club.

MIT lost only to the University of Texas at Dallas (UTD) and the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC), which both tied for first place. Both of these schools offer chess fellowships to attract top players from around the country.

MIT tied for third place with four other schools including Stanford University, Harvard University and the UTD and UMBC "B" Teams.

MIT defeated Harvard B, Rhode Island College, UMBC B and Chicago B teams, ending with a score of 4 points out of 6.

The competition was held in Providence, Rhode Island in late December. Representing MIT were team members Groberman, Tamer Karatekin '04, Sanne V. De Boer G, and Alex Skorokhod '04.

### Competition heated at tournament

The MIT team members felt that they could have done better had they not been placed in the same set as UTD and UMBC, which were undoubtedly the best teams in the tournament.

Skorokhod's decisive victory over the higher-ranked Dennis Rylander of UTD was undoubtedly the biggest upset of the game, especially because Rylander is ranked about 500 points higher than Skorokhod.

"The result is that MIT tied with Harvard, Stanford and other colleges which we think we could have done better than," said Karatekin, an MIT team member who is the national chess champion of Turkey.

"Last semester MIT beat the Harvard team by 7.5 to 2.5 which is a definitive margin," he added.

For a student to participate in the

tournament he or she must be enrolled in the spring or fall term at a college and be working towards a degree from the college. The college must also write a letter acknowledging the student's enrollment.

### Chess team hopes to hire coach

Right now, the chess team's immediate goal is to raise money to fund their activities and, more importantly, to hire a coach.

"We basically practice alone and critique each other's game; having a

we are giving them a chance to come out and play."

The chess club has also organized a program with the Educational Studies Program (ESP) in which they teach high school children how to play chess and offer advice on how to better their game in an effort to promote chess playing in the community.

The MIT Chess Team's performance was a great improvement on last year, in which MIT placed 15th. In all, 27 teams competed in the



(Clockwise from top left) Tamer Karatekin '04, Elina Groberman '04, Alex Skorokhod '04, and Sanne V. De Boer G of the MIT Chess Team placed third in the Pan-American Intercollegiate Team Championship, held in Providence, Rhode Island, at the end of December.

coach would greatly benefit us and improve our game," Groberman said.

The team has also been busy in educating the community about the game of chess. They have been organizing chess workshops and a tournament over Independent Activities Period to encourage students to develop interest in the game.

"We believe that there are many chess players at MIT who could contribute to the development of the game at MIT," Groberman said. "So

47th annual Pan-Am tournament, which began in 1946 as a biannual tournament and became an annual event in 1965. Besides hosting the top chess teams in the nation, the tournament also had very highly ranked individual participants including three international chess masters and grandmasters.

The team is now preparing to compete in the US Amateur Team Championship East, which will be held in mid-February.

## Fire Alarm Sources Uncertain

Fourth West, from Page 1

keg have been established by residents of Fourth West. Several residents confirmed that the fire department noticed the marijuana plant after responding to the alarm, and subsequently reported it to the Campus Police.

Costantino said she was not present at the time the first alarm went off on Jan. 9, but said she had heard that the student's humidifier might have set off the alarm.

"We have a really funny fire alarm system in the dorm," Costantino said. She said that to her knowledge the alarm did, in fact, originate in the room where Campus Police later found the plant.

However, Low said she had heard from some residents that the alarm originated in the kitchen, but the fire department mistook a towel hanging over Merckx's door for a rescue signal.

Harvey said that residents had "been told a lot of different things" about the source of the alarms.

"We've always had problems [with fire alarms]," Low said.

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# Albert Among Speakers in Independent Media Forum

By Keith J. Winstein

STAFF REPORTER

The MIT Western Hemisphere Project hosted a day-long program of presentations and panel discussions by members of independent publications and media outlets on Monday.

The event, entitled "A Forum for Independent Media on The Western Hemisphere: History, Culture, Economics, Politics," was among the first to be arranged by the fledgling group.

The program consisted of two sessions: a series of six lectures in the Stratton Student Center in the morning and afternoon, followed by a three-hour panel discussion in 10-250 in the evening. The daytime session also included a "media fair," where participants could browse and buy books and other materials from 25 publishers.

## Barsamian faults radio stations

The three-hour evening session featured a lecture on "War, Terrorism, & Media" by David Barsamian, followed by "So What Do We Want? — And How Do We Get It?" by Michael A. Albert '69.

The two lectures were followed by a question-and-answer session with about 80 audience members, moderated by Linda Pinkow, news co-director for WMBR, the MIT campus radio station.

Barsamian is the Director of Alternative Radio, which describes itself as "a weekly one-hour public affairs program offered free to all public radio stations" out of Boulder, Colo.

Saying that "there is no greater force than the media in shaping the public mind," Barsamian decried the "huge vacuum created by" the Boston public broadcasting stations WGBH and WBUR having been "corporatized over a period of decades."

Efforts to reform them, Barsamian said, have been made difficult by the "preposterous barrage of propaganda that PBS and NPR are somehow left-leaning."

In particular, Barsamian faulted the media for propagating after Sept. 11 "the reductive, formulaic, monochromatic one-note samba that 'evildoers hate us,' that this is a clash of civilizations: Islam versus the West."

"I hope I'm wrong, but I think there will be more bin Ladens," Barsamian said, reminding the audience of the formerly supportive relationship between the United States and Muslim fighters in Afghanistan by holding up photographs of former President Ronald Reagan greeting "freedom fighters" in the Oval Office.

Barsamian asked why contemporary Western commentators would discuss "how to reform the Arab world" after Sept. 11 when there were "no calls to reform the Christian or Western world after Srebrenica," referring to the 1995 massacre by Bosnian Serb soldiers of almost 10,000 Muslims after United Nations peacekeepers failed to protect them. Nor were there "calls for reform after Western Europe in the 1940s," he said.

Barsamian ended by speaking of the future, saying that the public after Sept. 11 was, "clamoring for stories that don't tell the official story," and that projects aiming for an "increase in the democratization of the media" are the "key to effecting social change the justice."

## Mike Albert talks of 'how to win'

Albert, former president of MIT's Undergraduate Association, spoke next. Albert dismissed the notion that the media are incapable of reporting "truthful stories" and "complicated realities," citing the sports and business sections of a newspaper as examples of each, respectively.

Instead, he said, an economic analysis tells us that the requirement to make a profit by selling advertis-



Michael A. Albert '69, former UA president and co-editor of *Z Magazine*, gestures to Linda Pinkow, news co-director at WMBR, during a lecture on the media's role in war and terrorism in 10-250 on Monday.

ing "will put constraints on what appears in the media."

Shifting gears, Albert launched into a discussion of techniques to get people to "join the movement." "It is a catastrophe that the left has not been able to get its message across of 'what we want,'" he said.

Albert compared leftists' situation with that of a hypothetical orator against aging. Just as one might successfully convince a crowd that capitalism is an evil, Albert said, one could convincingly demonstrate the scourge of aging, but this is not enough. Until people believe that there is an alternative to capitalism, they will be no more likely to join a movement against it than one against aging, believing either to be against the inevitable.

"That's why we need vision," Albert said. "They think [capitalism]'s the way life works, and we should quit whining about it."

The recent "anti-globalization" protests have been on the right track for seeking to attack "the institutions instead of just manifestations like war," Albert said, but he cautioned the audience about the difficulties of success.

"The only way to win is to raise the social costs so high that the other side relents," rather than trying to convince "the other side" of the rectitude of one's position, he said. "We need 10 million people."

Albert finished on a positive note, saying he was glad the failure of the left to "win" as yet could be traced to its own mistakes, rather than the inherent strengths of the other side.

"Thank God we can look over the past 30 years and find all sorts of failings on our part," he said.

## Panel advises audience on tactics

Most questioners followed Albert's line, asking about tactics to bring people into "the movement."

In response to one question about how to better bring people into the fold, Albert cautioned that, as an alternative media institution,

"it's hard to have any interaction except with people who already agree with you."

In an interview, Albert said of independent media organizations, "That stuff they teach you in journalism school is beside the point ... I think you should label news 'news' and opinion 'opinion', but also realize that news is opinion."

Albert also drew a distinction between the Independent Media Centers, which allow anyone on the Internet to upload material, and his

*Z Magazine* "ZNet" site, for which he said contributions are examined and edited before being posted on some areas of the site.

## Forum organized by new group

The Western Hemisphere Project was formed over the summer to discuss and present issues relating to the interactions among people of the Americas, said Erica L. McEvoy '03, the group's president.

"It stems from looking at Lori Berenson's case," McEvoy said. Lori H. Berenson, a former MIT undergraduate, is currently serving a 20-year jail sentence in Peru following her conviction on charges of collaborating with an outlawed rebel group.

"What sort of context does it happen in?" McEvoy asked. "We started looking at other issues besides Lori. What got me going was looking at human rights issues."

The impetus behind the independent media forum was that "there are some issues that some of us thought weren't represented in mainstream media," McEvoy said. "That raises the importance of alternative media" and hence the day-long program.

Some of the independent media outlets are structured like their "mainstream media" cousins, while others such as the Independent Media Centers allow anyone on the Internet to contribute news or opinion stories, sometimes with no clear distinction observed between the two.

## Ryan lectures on media savvy

Charlotte Ryan, a professor of sociology at Boston College, spoke during the day about techniques for activist groups to use the media to share their concerns. Ryan is the author of the book *Prime Time Activism*. She also "coaches people to talk to journalists" through BC's

Media Research & Action Project.

"It was a privilege for me [to be invited to the event]," Ryan said. "There were some very interesting people in the audience, all of whom are trying to do some serious work."

Cautioning that "all that communications can do is shine a bright light on good work," she said the media savvy she teaches is important "in light of the increasingly narrow window of opportunity to get news into mainstream news."

## Many organizations represented

Others who spoke during the day included Joshua Rubenstein, the northeast regional director of Amnesty International USA, and Josh Grebe of the Independent Media Center of Boston.

The Executive Director of the human rights advocacy group Grassroots International, Kevin Murray, spoke about the upcoming second World Social Forum in Porto Alegre, Brazil.

Murray said that while the WSF was originally organized as a sort of counter-event to the World Economic Forum held last year Davos, Switzerland and starting tomorrow in New York City, the message this year would be that, "there is an alternative."

Murray was optimistic about the quality and amount of news coverage the WSF will receive, saying in an interview that the Forum is now a legitimate "pole on the debate."

The lecture series "was a great discussion. I thought it was a very worthy event," Murray said, although he expressed disappointment at the turnout, which some estimated at 20 attending each day-time lecture. "I knew a lot of the people in the crowd, which suggested they were not from MIT. I had hoped to be talking to more of the student body."

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# Emotional Problems Plagued Shin at MIT

Shin, from Page 1

and friends, and all those at MIT who tried to help her," Swopes said. "But it was not the fault of MIT or anyone who works at MIT."

## Shins were unaware of problems

The Shins claim they never realized how vast Elizabeth Shin's emotional problems were until after her death. "That's something we learned after the tragedy. We just had no idea what was going on," Shin's father said. He said that he and his wife always believed that their daughter was a happy and cheerful person who thrived in challenging environments.

*USA Today*, however, reported that Elizabeth Shin struggled with emotional issues since high school. The paper reported yesterday that she cut her wrists after receiving an incomplete grade during her senior year that caused her to become salutatorian instead of valedictorian.

## Suit chronicles Shin's problems

The lawsuit gives a detailed description of the events that led to Shin's death from the time she arrived as a freshman, based on MIT medical records. Freshman year, Shin was hospitalized for a week at McLean Hospital after overdosing on Tylenol. Several MIT medical personnel and administrators learned about the incident. She was then referred to a MIT psychologist who diagnosed her with "situational issues" and did not provide any further medical referrals for the summer.

The Shins said that although they knew of Elizabeth's hospitalization, they never realized she was suicidal.

Shin continued to have psychological problems in her sophomore year. During the fall semester, she was referred by her associate dean to see a psychologist, but she never went to her appointment. She also sent an e-mail to a faculty member stating that she was contemplating suicide. The e-mail was forwarded to several MIT employees, but nothing occurred as a result of the e-mail.

## Conditioned worsened in spring

In March 2000, Shin met with several of MIT Mental Health Services' personnel after her dormmates reported her suicide threats. She was diagnosed with depression and also a potential borderline personality disorder. As a result, Shin was prescribed with anti-depressant medication and was encouraged to come into the clinic whenever she felt suicidal.

In April 2000, Shin told a dormmate that she wanted to kill herself by sticking a knife into her chest. When the dormmate reported this, Shin was taken to MIT Mental Health Services and spoke to the on-call psychiatrist. However, he decided to not meet with her personally.

Two days later, on April 10, 2000 at 1 a.m., two of Shin's dormmates reported to their housemaster that she had threatened suicide again. The housemaster contacted the on-call psychiatrist, who told her that he did not believe Shin was at risk. At 9 p.m. the same day, a resident at Random Hall heard the smoke detector go off in Elizabeth Shin's room. The fire was reported, and a campus police officer rescued Elizabeth Shin from her room. She died four days later on April 14, 2000 with third degree burns over 65 percent of her body.

## Shins hope MIT improves

Since the incident, MIT has reevaluated its Mental Health Services. The Mental Health Task Force released a final report on November 14, 2001 which made recommendations such as extending office hours and increasing staff members in the department. Office hours have already been extended from 8:30 A.M. to 5 P.M. on Mondays through Thursdays to 8:30 A.M. to 7 P.M.

However, DeLuca believes these efforts are weak and more drastic measures need to be implemented. "MIT is just putting more people and more money into a flawed system," DeLuca said. He also complained about the legitimacy of the task force itself. Top among his criticisms were that there were no nationally known experts or parents of suicide victims.

The Shins also have problems with MIT's privacy policy when dealing with students who seek psychiatric assistance. Confidentiality laws allow colleges to keep information private and only notify parents if the student is an eminent threat to herself or her peers.

The Shins firmly believe that MIT should have notified them of their daughter's condition. "MIT not giving us that one phone call — they failed," Cho Hyun Shin said.

Kisuk Shin hopes that this case will prevent tragedies like this from happening again. "I want parents to get even one that one phone call ... so they don't have to go through the pain of what we went through," Kisuk Shin said. "This shouldn't happen again."

*Kevin R. Lang contributed to the reporting of this story.*

# Elizabeth Shin Chronology

The following events are listed as "specific chronological facts" in the lawsuit filed by the Shin family.

On **February 12, 1999**, Ms. Shin took an overdose of Tylenol with Codeine. Ms. Shin was immediately transported to the Massachusetts General Hospital and to McLean Hospital, where she received in-patient psychiatric treatment for one week. Upon her release, she was referred to Dr. Kristine Girard, Associate Chief of MIT Mental Health Services.

Several MIT medical professionals and administrative staff learned of Ms. Shin's suicide attempt, including Ms. Anna Maria Torianni, Ms. Shin's Academic Advisor, Ms. Ayida Mthemba, the Associate Dean of Students, and Ms. Nina Davis-Millis, Ms. Shin's Housemaster at Random Hall.

Ms. Shin was referred to Dr. Girard for treatment during the **spring semester of 1999**. During this time, Dr. Girard learned that Ms. Shin continued to express her intent to commit suicide and continued to suffer depression-related symptoms. Dr. Girard diagnosed Ms. Shin with "situational issues", and did not advise her to seek psychotherapy or provide her with any medical referral during the summer semester break.

Upon her return to MIT for her Sophomore year, in **October, 1999**, Ms. Shin met with Dr. Leslie Egler and Dr. Kristine Girard at MIT Mental Health Services. Ms. Shin stated that she was going crazy, felt lonely and unloved, and was overwhelmed with negative thoughts. She was also eating poorly and not getting enough sleep. Dr. Egler and Dr. Girard concluded that she was confronting "situational issues" and encouraged her to come back to the clinic on a voluntary basis.

On **November 9, 1999**, Ms. Shin met with Associate Dean Henderson and communicated to him that she had gotten upset and smashed a glass vase. She also told him that she had cut herself on her arms and wrists, but she was unclear if this was by accident or by a deliberate act.

That same day Associate Dean Henderson arranged for Ms. Shin to see Dr. Peter Reich, Chief of MIT Mental Health Services, who in turn assigned her to see Dr. Amy Brager. Ms. Shin called to say that she would not attend the appointment. Neither Associate Dean Henderson nor Dr. Reich followed up with Ms. Shin, nor did they confirm whether anyone at MIT Mental Health Services had met with her.

On **December 5, 1999**, Ms. Shin sent an email to a faculty member, Riaz Shiraz Dhanani. She expressed that she was contemplating suicide by taking an overdose of sleeping pills. This email was forwarded to several MIT employees, including Associate Dean Henderson, who in turn informed Dr. Girard. No action was taken in response to the email message.

On **March 18, 2000**, at approximately 1:00 A.M., students that reside at Random Hall alerted Ms. Davis-Millis that Ms. Shin was cutting herself in her room. After finding Ms. Shin hysterical and out of control, Ms. Davis-Millis transported Elizabeth to MIT Mental Health Services.

Upon examination, an on-duty physician determined that Ms. Shin should be admitted to the MIT Infirmary for further observation. She was also seen by Dr. David Reisen, who concluded that Elizabeth suffered from depression and a potential borderline personality disorder. He observed that she feared for her safety, had suicidal thoughts, was unable to confront academic and social stress, and felt hopeless and worthless. Notwithstanding the foregoing, he discharged her the following day on **March 19, 2000**. On **March 28, 2000**, Dr. Peter Reich signed the discharge record.

On **March 23, 2000**, Ms. Shin sought treatment at the MIT Mental Health Services on a walk-in basis. She saw Dr. Linda Cunningham and told her that she had cut herself to get back to reality and had chronic suicidal thoughts. She felt alone, sad, angry, fearful, depressed, and had problems eating, sleeping, and concentrating. Dr. Cunningham prescribed an anti-depressant medication, but left it up to Ms. Shin to contact her parents about her diagnosed illness. Dr. Cunningham made no effort to place Ms. Shin in a more intensive therapy program.

On **March 30, 2000**, Dr. Cunningham saw Ms. Shin twice, by appointment and as a walk-in patient. Ms. Shin was having morbid thoughts about seeing herself bleed to death and wanting to hang herself. She seemed to be deteriorating and was not eating. Even though Dr. Cunningham diagnosed Ms. Shin with a major depressive disorder, with borderline traits, she did not seek to obtain inpatient care for Ms. Shin. Instead, Dr. Cunningham asked Ms. Shin to try to eat and to come to the walk-in clinic when she felt suicidal. She also asked Ms. Shin to return to the walk-in clinic at 3:00 P.M.

At 2:00 P.M. that same day, Dr. Cunningham communicated with Dean Henderson about Ms. Shin and her mental condition. Dean Henderson relayed that Ms. Nina Davis-Millis was concerned about Ms. Shin's persistent self-mutilation and her morbid thoughts.

At 3:00 P.M. that same day, Ms. Shin met with Dr. Cunningham again. Dr. Cunningham increased Ms. Shin's medication and referred her to an outpatient therapist, Eleanor Temelini, a Licensed Social Worker.

On **March 31, 2000**, Dean Henderson met again with Ms. Shin. During this meeting Ms. Shin informed him that she had not eaten for the last 48 hours and that she wondered why she worried about long-term plans when she might just end it all one day. Dean Henderson knew that Ms. Shin had been cutting herself at night in her dorm room and that she was seeing Dr. Cunningham. He was also aware that her dorm mates and Ms. Davis-Millis were very concerned about her and stayed up at night watching her. Dean Henderson, however, never shared these concerns or any medical diagnosis with Shin's parents.

On **April 4, 2000**, Ms. Shin returned to MIT Mental Health Services on a walk-in basis, and met with a staff psychiatrist, Dr. Lili Gottfried. Ms. Shin stated to Gottfried that she "wondered why she is here" and "felt anxious in Spanish Class." Even though Dr. Gottfried was aware that Dr. Cunningham has documented that Ms. Shin has suicidal ideation and cutting, she did not document a thorough assessment of Ms. Shin's suicidal ideation, plan or intent.

On **April 4, 2000**, Ms. Shin saw an independent therapist, Eleanor Temelini, LICSW, who evaluated her. Ms. Shin agreed while meeting with Ms. Temelini that she would throw away any sharp objects she might use to cut herself, that she would try to distract herself from emotional pain, and that she would go to MIT Mental Health Services if she felt she might hurt herself.

On **April 5, 2000**, Ms. Shin purposely cut her wrists and arms again.

On **April 6, 2000**, Ms. Temelini communicated to Dr. Cunningham that Ms. Shin needed more services than she could provide, therefore, she recommended that Ms. Shin be admitted immediately into a 5-day, intensive program of Dialectic Behavior Therapy ("DBT"). Dr. Cunningham told Ms. Temelini that she would contact Ms. Shin and encourage her to make an intake appointment.

The same day, on **April 6, 2000**, Ms. Shin met again with Dr. Cunningham. During this meeting Dr. Cunningham learned that Ms. Shin had cut herself the night before. She discussed with Ms. Shin the option of hospitalization and participation in the DBT program, but left it up to Ms. Shin to decide what course to take.

On **April 8, 2000**, Ms. Shin told Jim Paris, a student who resides at Random Hall, that she wanted to kill herself that night by sticking a knife into her chest. Students contacted MIT Campus Police, who escorted Ms. Shin to MIT Mental Health Services. MIT staff physician Dr. Howard Heller saw her, and Elizabeth spoke by telephone to an on-call psychiatrist, Dr. Anthony Van Niel.

Dr. Van Niel was aware that Ms. Shin had expressed suicidal intentions earlier in the evening, and that she had a medical history which included depression and a prior suicide attempt with ongoing treatment. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Dr. Van Niel decided that he had no need to meet or evaluate Ms. Shin in person, and concluded that it was safe for her to return to her dorm room.

In the early morning hours of **April 10, 2000**, LeeAnn Henn Jim Paris, students at Random Hall, woke Ms. Davis-Millis and told her that Ms. Shin had said she was going to kill herself and had asked Mr. Paris to erase her computer files.

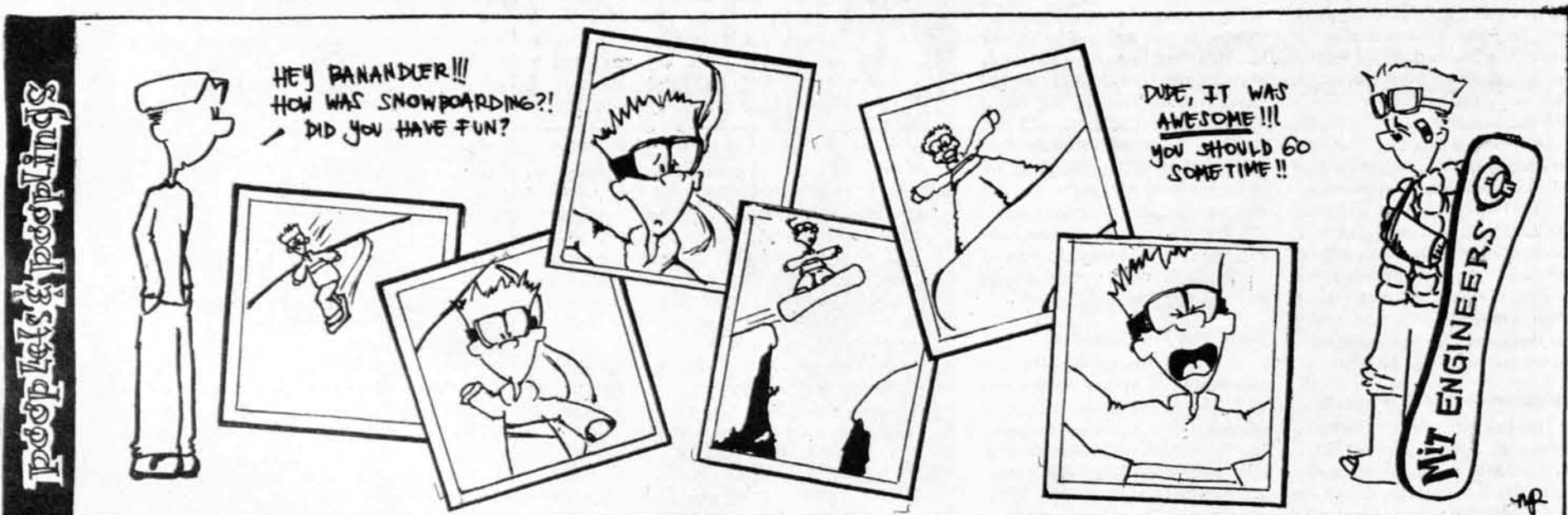
At 1:00 A.M., that same day, Ms. Davis-Millis contacted Dr. Van Niel about Ms. Shin's suicidal intentions. Dr. Van Niel felt that Ms. Shin was not at risk and not the type of patient that should be involuntarily committed for mental health treatment. He encouraged Ms. Davis-Millis to speak to Ms. Shin. Ms. Davis-Millis contacted Dean Henderson and Dean Carol Orme-Johnson later that morning to express her concerns.

On **April 10, 2000**, at approximately 9:00 P.M., Andrew Thomas, a student who resided at Random Hall, heard the smoke detector in Ms. Shin's room. He heard somebody moaning inside the room and tried to open the door, but it was locked. He called for Ms. Henn who confirmed that she too heard Ms. Shin crying and could smell smoke. As soon as Dispatcher Tirella notified the mobile units of the MIT Police, they went to Random Hall and found Ms. Shin engulfed in flames flailing on the floor in the middle of her room. Officer Munnely entered the room and pulled Ms. Shin's body out to the lobby area ... On **April 11, 2000**, Dr. Mangi informed Mr. and Mrs. Shin that their daughter had third degree burns over 65% of her body. Dr. Mangi also informed Mr. and Mrs. Shin of the grave nature of their daughter's injuries, as well as the type of care that was being administered ... On **April 14, 2000**, Dr. Colleen Ryan met again with Mr. Shin to tell him that his daughter had died.



Miles Smith and Otis Goodlett of the Saxophone Quartet of the United States Marine Band perform in Killian Hall last Thursday night, opening with "Lorette in Yellow Turban" by Jeremy Saunders.

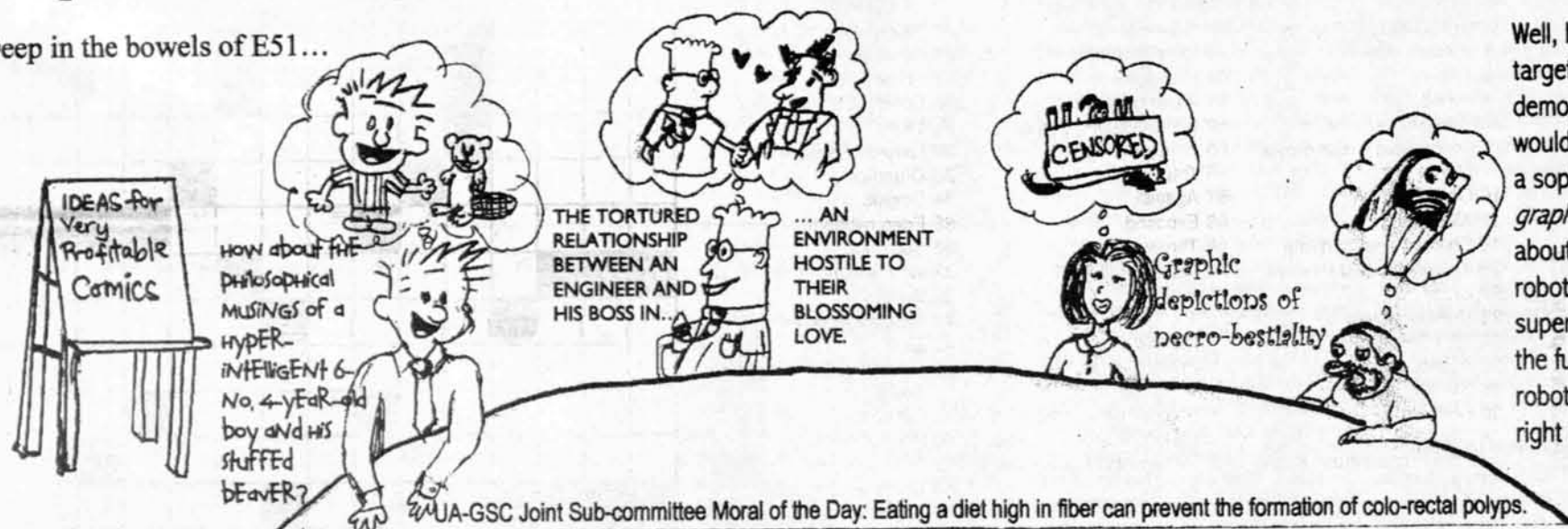




## Captain Rocket

Daveet Majumdar, Andrew Mauer, Jennifer Shlak

Deep in the bowels of E51...



Well, I think our target demographic would appreciate a sophisticated graphic novel about a bio-robotic superhero from the future. Bio-robotics is so hot right now!

UA-GSC Joint Sub-committee Moral of the Day: Eating a diet high in fiber can prevent the formation of colo-rectal polyps.

## Dilbert® by Scott Adams





FoxTrot

by Bill Amend

JASON HASN'T SEEN MANY JAMES BOND MOVIES, BY CHANCE, HAS HE?

WHAT DOES THAT HAVE TO DO WITH HIS MAYBE GETTING BRACES?

YE GODS — THE EVIL MASTERMIND AND HIS HENCHMAN JAWS HAVE BECOME ONE!

HEH HEH HEH...

MY FRIEND STEVE GOT A JOB AT LUGI'S PIZZA.

WHERE ARE WE GOING?

TODAY'S HIS FIRST DAY. I FIGURED WE'D DROP BY AND SEE HOW HE'S DOING.

YOU MEAN, DROP BY AND SEE IF HE'LL GIVE US FREE FOOD.

WELL, YEAH, THAT TOO.

YOU HAVE TO ADMIT IT'D BE A LITTLE FUNNY TO SEE JASON WITH BRACES.

THE PLASTIC KIND, MAYBE. BUT NOT METAL.

I HAVE TO DRESS LIKE THIS NOW, MOTHER — I'M 0.002 PERCENT CYBORG.

OK, STEVE, PRETEND YOU DON'T KNOW US AND GIVE US THE SPIEL.

WELCOME TO LUGI'S. MY NAME IS STEVE, AND I'LL BE YOUR SERVER.

WHAT KIND OF SERVER? WEB? FTP? MAIL? NEWS? ARE YOU RUNNING APACHE 2.0? I HAVE THE BETA IF YOU WANT IT.

JASON, PASS ME THAT BIG PITCHER OF ICE WATER.

HE'S CERTAINLY PRETENDING HE DOESN'T KNOW US NOW.

SO WHAT'S THE VERDICT?

DOES JASON NEED BRACES?

NOT FOR NOW.

THE ORTHODONTIST WANTS TO SEE HIM AGAIN IN SIX MONTHS, THOUGH.

YOU MEAN WE HAVE TO GO THROUGH ALL THIS ANXIETY AGAIN?!

WHAT ANXIETY IS THERE FOR YOU TWO??

DANG, I'D HAVE MADE SUCH A GOOD PARTIAL CYBORG...

GLUG GLUG GLUG GLUG GLUG

I'D LIKE A REFUND. THIS ROOT BEER WAS A DUD.

EXCUSE ME?

Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 16

- ACROSS
- 1 Knight's lady

5 Edibles

9 Jeopardy

14 Gershwin and Levin

15 Tommy Lee's rock group, Motley

16 Ooze out

17 Air outlet

18 Children's string game

20 Kournikova and Pavlova

22 Crazy

23 Humbly patient

24 "The Thinker" or "David"

26 Aquatic croaker

28 Rancor

30 Rodeo rope

35 Classified

38 Attractive woman: slang

39 Transfer tube

40 Macy's or Sears

43 Excuses

44 Melee

45 Letters for little green men

46 Cut into small pieces

47 Gray or red fish

49 School official
- 51 Conundrum

55 Sails supporter

59 Firepower

61 Piece of parsley

62 Self-governing groups

65 Shoulder bag

66 Trap

67 Against

68 Exposed

69 Throw about

70 Grunts of disgust

71 Saucy
- DOWN
- 1 Prima donnas

2 we all?

3 Spiritual nourishment

4 Landed manor

5 TV regulatory agcy.

6 Spoken

7 No longer in a race

8 Catch sight of

9 diem (daily)

10 Midterm or final

11 Impolite

12 Loafing

13 Soup vegetable

19 Pigeon call
- 21 Like some tomatoes

25 Gives out

27 Shines

29 Belief: suff.

31 Likely

32 Oxford or wedge

33 Organize

34 Singles

35 Eden resident

36 Sub shop

37 Whirl around

39 Swiped

41 Natl. TV network

42 Zero

47 Kenyan nationalist of the '50s

48 First-rate

50 Psyche division

52 Search blindly

53 Bishop's headdress

54 Representative

55 Catholic service

56 Father's sister

57 Luminary

58 Ripped into pieces

60 Eve's third

63 Fresh

64 Bro's sibling

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The Tech

Established 1881

Open House

This Sunday

2-5pm

Student Center, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor

Come and meet the staff, take a tour of the office and eat some Toscanini's ice cream.

Stay and take an assignment for Tuesday's issue.

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Undergraduate

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Xerox PARC is offering exciting undergraduate internships this summer for students in Computer Science, Electrical Engineering, and Physics.

Applications due February 16th.  
[www.parc.xerox.com/summer](http://www.parc.xerox.com/summer)

parc



# Events Calendar

Visit and add events to Events Calendar online at <http://events.mit.edu>

Wednesday, January 30

**10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. – UPOP IAP Introduction to Engineering Practice Workshop.** The Undergraduate Practice Opportunities Program IAP workshop provides engineering sophomores the opportunity to build the core foundation of skills necessary to succeed and prepare a summer practice experience. The course will introduce concepts in product development, system dynamics, organizational dynamics, and effective communication. The course introduces concepts in ethics and character as well as leadership and teamwork. To ensure that students acquire an appreciation of the social, environmental, and ethical implications of organizational decision making. The IAP course is an interactive experience integrating lectures with role-playing, simulations and group projects, in which students apply these concepts in a case study context. Free. Room: 26-152. Sponsor: UPOP (Undergraduate Practice Opportunities Program), Dean of Engineering.

**12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. – Excel Quick Start.** This course presents an overview of Excel's basic functions, as well as some of its more powerful features and capabilities. Free. Room: N42 Demo Center. Sponsor: Information Systems.

**12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. – Infant-Toddler Child Care Briefing.** An introductory discussion for expectant parents and those new to parenting or child care, covering types of care, costs, finding and evaluating care, and parental leave. Pre-registration is required. Free. Room: Family Resource Center (16-151). Sponsor: Family Resource Center.

**12:10 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. – Physical Oceanography Sack Lunch Seminar.** Free. Room: 54-915. Sponsor: Physical Oceanography.

**7:00 p.m. – Wrestling vs. Rhode Island College.** Free. Room: Dupont Gymnasium. Sponsor: Department of Athletics.

**7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. – Renaissance Dancing.** There are many forms of Renaissance Dancing that we practice. From Italian ball to courtly pavans to English country. We dance them all with flair and fun. Dress is common street clothing. No experience necessary; instruction is provided. Free. Room: W20 (Sala or 407 or 491). Sponsor: Society for Creative Anachronism.

**8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. – IFILM Film Seminar.** Free. Room: 4-237. Sponsor: Graduate Student Council, International Film Club.

**10:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. – Music at The Ear.** Krysalis, a night of trance with sasha, rajesh, yannis, and selim, starts at 10 p.m. The Thirsty Ear Pub is located in the Ashdown House basement. Enter through the courtyard. Hours: Monday: 8 p.m. - 12 a.m., Tuesday - Thursday: 7 p.m. - 1 a.m., Friday: 4 p.m. - 1 a.m. Must be over 21. Proper ID required. This event is funded in part by the Grants Program of the Council for the Arts at MIT. Free. Room: The Thirsty Ear Pub. Sponsor: The Thirsty Ear Pub. MITDMC, ATat.

Thursday, January 31

**10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. – Do-It-Yourself Mock Aviation Accident Investigation.** IAP - Bermuda Airlines Flight 16 has crashed shortly after takeoff on its way to the United States. Work with your peers on a small self-directed investigative team to solve a realistic (but fictional) aircraft accident mystery. New information on the crash will be given out each session as you piece together the facts to determine what caused the accident and build recommendations for improving flying safety. Note: This is the same problem that was solved in Unified Engineering in Fall, 2000. Not for credit. Participants requested to attend all sessions (non-series) Prereq: Spreadsheet computer skills (Excel), some familiarity with aviation. Free. Room: MIT, Room 33-218. Sponsor: AeroAstro.

**10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. – UPOP IAP Introduction to Engineering Practice Workshop.** The Undergraduate Practice Opportunities Program IAP workshop provides engineering sophomores the opportunity to build the core foundation of skills necessary to succeed and prepare a summer practice experience. The course will introduce concepts in product development, system dynamics, organizational dynamics, and effective communication. The course introduces concepts in ethics and character as well as leadership and teamwork. To ensure that students acquire an appreciation of the social, environmental, and ethical implications of organizational decision making. The IAP course is an interactive experience integrating lectures with role-playing, simulations and group projects, in which students apply these concepts in a case study context. Free. Room: 26-152. Sponsor: UPOP (Undergraduate Practice Opportunities Program), Dean of Engineering.

**10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. – “Doing Science in a Human Spaceflight Environment.”** This lecture will describe how scientific experiments must be planned to take account of the realities of working in a human spaceflight environment. Differences between the research environment on space shuttle missions compared with the space station will be illustrated with examples from actual missions. Part of the Lecture Series on Human Spaceflight Operations. Free. Room: MIT, 33-116. Sponsor: AeroAstro.

**10:30 a.m. - 12:00 a.m. – Seminar: “New Directions in Fuel Cell Materials Research.”** Faculty Candidate in the Dept. of Mechanical Engineering. Free. Room: 3-370. Sponsor: Mechanical Engineering Dept., Sloan Automotive Laboratory.

**12:00 p.m. – O. Robert Simha - 40 Years of Planning at MIT.** Free. Room: Bartos Theater. Sponsor: authors@mit, The MIT Press Bookstore.

**1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. – Paper Airplane Contest.** Let your imagination take to the air on wings of paper at the Great IAP Paper Airplane Contest! Come for fun or for some serious competition. Hack a plane together onsite or bring some masterpieces with you. More than \$100 worth of prizes will be awarded. Free. Room: Johnson Gym, 2nd floor track infield. Sponsor: MIT AIAA Chapter, AeroAstro.

**1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. – Weight Watchers at Work meetings at MIT.** New and returning members are always welcome at this weekly meeting on weight control. Friendly, relaxed lunch hour meetings. More info: [tpriest@mit.edu](mailto:tpriest@mit.edu). Room: Building 8-219. Sponsor: Information Center.

**4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. – Do-It-Yourself Mock Aviation Accident Investigation.** IAP - Bermuda Airlines Flight 16 has crashed shortly after takeoff on its way to the United States. Work with your peers on a small self-directed investigative team to solve a realistic (but fictional) aircraft accident mystery. New information on the crash will be given out each session as you piece together the facts to determine what caused the accident and build recommendations for improving flying safety. Note: This is the same problem that was solved in Unified Engineering in Fall, 2000. Participants requested to attend all sessions (non-series). Prereq: Spreadsheet computer skills (Excel), some familiarity with aviation. Free. Room: MIT, Room 33-218. Sponsor: AeroAstro.

**5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. – UROP Roundtable Discussion.** What is a UROP supposed to be? What makes a UROP successful? How do you handle UROP “problems?” This roundtable discussion gives you an opportunity to share your own UROP experiences, and to hear from other students about their experiences. Students who have had or have UROPs are encouraged to attend. UROP Office staff (and others) will also participate. Pizza will be served. Free. Room: 16-168. Sponsor: UROP.

**8:00 p.m. – MIT and Boston Conservatory of Music Collaboration Concert.** The Boston Conservatory of Music Orchestra with guest performers from the MIT Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Dante Anzolini (Music Director of the MIT Symphony Orchestra) Prokofiev's “Romeo and Juliette”; Stravinsky's “Le Chant Du Rossignol” and Liszt's Piano Concerto No. 2 in A, featuring Karolina Wozniakiewicz, winner of the Boston Conservatory Concerto Competition. Free. Room: Kresge Auditorium. Sponsor: Music and Theater Arts Section.

Friday, February 1

**10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. – Do-It-Yourself Mock Aviation Accident Investigation.** IAP - Bermuda Airlines Flight 16 has crashed shortly after takeoff on its way to the United States. Work with your peers on a small self-directed investigative team to solve a realistic (but fictional) aircraft accident mystery. New information on the crash will be given out each session as you piece together the facts to determine what caused the accident and build recommendations for improving flying safety. Note: This is the same problem that was solved in Unified Engineering in Fall, 2000. Not for credit. Participants requested to attend all sessions (non-series) Prereq: Spreadsheet computer skills (Excel), some familiarity with aviation. Free. Room: MIT, Room 33-218. Sponsor: AeroAstro.

Events Calendar appears in each issue of *The Tech* and features events for members of the MIT community. *The Tech* makes no guarantees as to the accuracy of this information, and *The Tech* shall not be held liable for any losses, including, but not limited to, damages resulting from attendance of an event. Contact information for all events is available from the Events Calendar web page.

**10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. – UPOP IAP Introduction to Engineering Practice Workshop.** The Undergraduate Practice Opportunities Program IAP workshop provides engineering sophomores the opportunity to build the core foundation of skills necessary to succeed and prepare a summer practice experience. The course will introduce concepts in product development, system dynamics, organizational dynamics, and effective communication. The course introduces concepts in ethics and character as well as leadership and teamwork. To ensure that students acquire an appreciation of the social, environmental, and ethical implications of organizational decision making. The IAP course is an interactive experience integrating lectures with role-playing, simulations and group projects, in which students apply these concepts in a case study context. Free. Room: 26-152. Sponsor: UPOP (Undergraduate Practice Opportunities Program), Dean of Engineering.

**12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. – FileMaker User Group.** The MIT FileMaker User Group (fmug) was formed for people at MIT, from beginners to experts, who are using or interested in learning to use FileMaker Pro database software and related products. After several years of dormancy, the group has been revived to acknowledge increasing use of FileMaker products on campus and to help the user community transition to FileMaker 5. Free. Room: N42 Demo Center. Sponsor: Information Systems.

**12:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. – Charm School.** How do I ask for a date? Should I speak to strangers when riding in an elevator? At what point in an interview should I ask about salary range? Etiquette-related subjects will be taught in an informal, fun atmosphere at Charm School. No pre-registration is required; students are free to choose from the many topics offered. The most ambitious students may earn “charm credits” towards a formal Charm School degree. A Bachelor's degree is awarded for completing six subjects, a Master's for eight, and a PhD for 12. Degrees will be awarded at the Charm School Commencement. This year, we are excited to turn the Student Center into a real Charm School! Free. Room: Stratton Student Center (W20). Sponsor: Residential Life and Student Life Programs.

**3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. – Do-It-Yourself Mock Aviation Accident Investigation.** IAP - Bermuda Airlines Flight 16 has crashed shortly after takeoff on its way to the United States. Work with your peers on a small self-directed investigative team to solve a realistic (but fictional) aircraft accident mystery. New information on the crash will be given out each session as you piece together the facts to determine what caused the accident and build recommendations for improving flying safety. Note: This is the same problem that was solved in Unified Engineering in Fall, 2000. Not for credit. Participants requested to attend all sessions (non-series) Prereq: Spreadsheet computer skills (Excel), some familiarity with aviation. Free. Room: MIT, Room 33-218. Sponsor: AeroAstro.

**5:00 p.m. – Arts Grant Deadline.** Deadline for 2001-2002 Council for the Arts funding. Forms available at the Office of the Arts, E15-205. Room: E15-205. Sponsor: Council for the Arts at MIT.

**5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. – UROP Panel Discussion with UROP Alums .** Interested in hearing about the UROP experiences of MIT alums? Come to this panel discussion to find out how UROP impacted alums — their choice of major, career, etc. Panelists will discuss their current work, and their former UROP experiences. Did UROP prepare them for their career, or impact major and career choices? Come with questions and mingle with alums after the talk! Pizza will be served! Free. Room: 56-154. Sponsor: Academic Resource Center, UROP.

**7:00 p.m. – MIT Anime Club Weekly Screening.** Most screenings are subtitled in English. The MIT Anime Club is a non-profit MIT student organization dedicated to increasing the awareness of Japanese animation (anime) on campus. Membership, available at the beginning of the term, enable one to borrow media, and receive valuable discounts with area merchants. Free. Room: Rm 6-120. Sponsor: Anime Club, MIT.

**8:00 p.m. – Once Upon a Mattress.** Can the horribly shy swamp princess find love and happiness with a momma's boy? \$9, \$8 MIT community/other students/seniors, \$6 MIT/Wellesley students. Room: Sala de Puerto Rico. Sponsor: Musical Theatre Guild, MIT.

**8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. – Hedwig and the Angry Inch.** Hedwig, born a boy named Hansel in East Berlin, fell in love with an American G.I. and underwent a sex-change operation in order to marry him and flee to the West. Unfortunately, nothing worked out quite as it was supposed to. Years later Hedwig is leading her rock band on a tour of the U.S., telling her life story through a series of concerts at Bilgewater Inn seafood restaurants. Her tour dates coincide with those of arena-rock star Tommy Gnosis, a wide-eyed boy who once loved Hedwig ... but then left with all her songs. \$3. Room: 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.

Saturday, February 2

**2:00 p.m. – Women's Gymnastics vs. Bridgeport/ SUNY Brockport.** Free. Room: Dupont Gymnasium. Sponsor: Department of Athletics.

**4:00 p.m. – Women's Hockey vs. Sacred Heart.** Free. Room: Johnson Ice Rink. Sponsor: Department of Athletics.

**6:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. – First Annual Palindromic Groundhog Day Auction.** The MIT Club of Boston and the MIT Chapter of Habitat for Humanity are sponsoring an evening of casual entertainment featuring a buffet dinner, a silent auction, and much more. All the proceeds of the auction will go directly to MIT Habitat for Humanity student chapter. The MIT Museum will be open to attendees as well, and sculptor Arthur Ganson will be on hand to explain his magnificent creations. \$35. Room: MIT Museum. Sponsor: Habitat for Humanity, MIT Club of Boston.

**7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. – Hedwig and the Angry Inch.** \$3. Room: 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.

**8:00 p.m. – Once Upon a Mattress.** \$9, \$8 MIT community/other students/seniors, \$6 MIT/Wellesley students. Room: Sala de Puerto Rico. Sponsor: Musical Theatre Guild, MIT.

**8:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. – Patrol.** Shoot your friends! Travel to strange, new classrooms; meet interesting, unusual people; and kill them. A team game of shoot-em-up; guns provided. Free. Room: Building 36, First Floor. Sponsor: Assassins' Guild, MIT.

**8:00 p.m. – Men's Hockey vs. Connecticut College.** Free. Room: Johnson Ice Rink. Sponsor: Department of Athletics.

**10:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m. – Hedwig and the Angry Inch.** \$3. Room: 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.

**4:00 p.m. – Once Upon a Mattress.** \$9, \$8 MIT community/other students/seniors, \$6 MIT/Wellesley students. Room: Sala de Puerto Rico. Sponsor: Musical Theatre Guild, MIT.

Monday, February 4

**12:00 a.m. – CCRR Grants Application Deadline.** Monthly deadline for CCRR grant proposals. Free. Sponsor: Committee on Campus Race Relations.

**12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. – PowerPoint Quick Start.** PowerPoint makes it easy to jazz up your presentations. Get an introduction to what PowerPoint can do. Find out how to create slide shows. Learn how to use drawing tools, graphics, and create handouts. Free. Room: N42 Demo Center. Sponsor: Information Systems.

**5:30 p.m. – MIT Western Hemisphere Project: Open Meeting.** We hold informal meetings throughout the year to discuss events in the news and to work on Project activities. If you want to just chat about these things, or if you want to join in and help organize, we'd love for you to attend. Free. Room: MIT 1-135. Sponsor: MIT Western Hemisphere Project.

**7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. – Auditions for The Dining Room.** MIT Community Players production of play by MIT Professor Emeritus A.R. Gurney. Directed by Megan Bell. Free. Room: Rm 1-277. Sponsor: MIT Community Players.

**7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. – Auditions for “The Scarlet Pimpernel”.** We are auditioning singers and dancers for the Tech Players debut production of “The Scarlet Pimpernel.” Bring along a prepared musical theater or pop song with sheet music for the accompanist. For information about the show, visit our website at: <http://web.mit.edu/techplayers/www/pimpy.html>. Free. Room: Student Center (W20) Room 491. Sponsor: The Tech Players.

## STUDENT TRAVEL

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London: \$539	Jamaica: \$499
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The firm currently has openings in its algorithmic trading and technology venture businesses, including roles in trading, software development, quantitative analysis, and business development. We're looking for creative but pragmatic people: articulate, curious, and driven. Our working environment is intense but surprisingly casual. We provide unusual opportunities for growth. And we compensate extraordinary people extraordinarily well.

**To be considered for an on-campus interview, please submit your resume and a cover letter stating your GPA and standardized test scores to InterviewTRAK by February 5.**

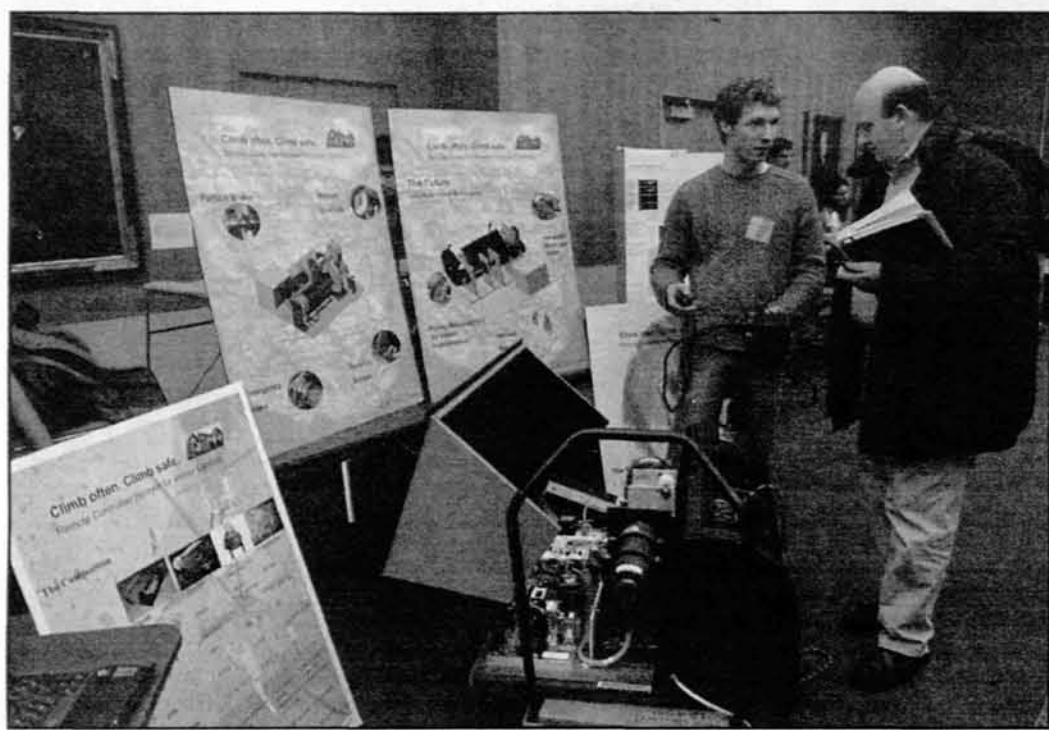
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DE Shaw & Co





WENDY GU—THE TECH

Grant W. Kristofek '02 explains how the IClimb RC Belayer works to MIT affiliate Tom Boudeau during the HKN Student Project Expo yesterday in the Bush Room. Kristofek was part of a seventeen-member team that built the belayer for 2.009 (Product Engineering Processes). The IClimb frees climbing enthusiasts from the need for a human belayer during indoor climbing.

## Robotics Strategies Key to Competition

6.270, from Page 1

head straight for the opponent's side to act as an interactive obstacle.

Cyndi V. Vongvanith '03, Jennifer C. Lee '03 and Jaya Cromwell '03 decided to go with a small and fast vehicle that would grab the two closest balls, put them into the holes and then head off to the back to plow the back row.

Rikky Muller '03, owner of "Lego My Eggo," said that her team decided to go for all their possible balls and totally ignore their opponent. Their robot sacrificed speed for control and accuracy, which proved to be a prudent trade-off as their robot emerged as one of the better robots, almost scoring a total of six balls.

On the other hand, many teams also chose the strategy of getting a few balls in quickly and then either blocking the holes or hinder their opponent's movement. Members from team 29 said that their strategy was to get the two closest balls into the holes as quickly as possible and then block the two holes using two rollers that would be propelled from the main body of the robot once the vehicle was properly positioned.

### Robots need tweaking for finals

Each team has put in many hours of hard work into building their robots, with most teams working more than eight hours each day. Some of the teams had to make radical changes to their robots only hours before the preliminaries to ensure that they would work properly.

A member of team 35 said that they had to build their robot from scratch on Sunday as they decided to change the design.

In the preliminary round, many robots had problems with the starting lights that are designed to help the robot register its starting position. While other robots' sensors strangely refused to function.

Eric Fuller '03, Dewey R. Richmond '03 and Josue Mateo '03 were immensely displeased when their robot managed to get 3 balls down the ramp towards the hole but because of, in their opinion, an imperfection of the board, none of the 3 balls managed to enter the hole. The balls were practically stuck on top of the hole. They lost

but still managed to qualify for the subsequent rounds.

### Robots reflect individuality

This year's robots displayed a wide range of designs. Billy F. Waldman '05 and Andrew T. Marsh '02, named their three-legged vehicle "Tricyclotops" and said that it had acrobatic ability and could do flips on the playing field.

Jennifer Huang '02, Jiafu Cen '03 and Steven Huang '03 affectionately named their robot "Pinchy," and as the name suggests, it has pinchers that would primarily be used to grab their balls and could also later be used to hinder their opponent's movement.

Team 4, consisting of Milan Mandic '03, Ian Garcia '03 and Raul J. Coral '03, all of whom are Course XVI (Aeronautics and Astronautics) majors, named their robot "Chubeto." Its special feature was a cage-like structure that could be used to entrap opponent's balls and prevent the other robot from scoring.

### 6.270 lives up to its reputation

6.270 is a hands-on, interactive class that is held annually during IAP. The main goal of the class is to design a machine that will be able to navigate its way around a fixed playing field, recognize its opponents, and manipulate game objects such as balls. The specific set-up of the playing field and method of scoring points changes from year to year.

This IAP's class did not fail to live up to the reputation that 6.270 has established in recent years. Allen Rabinovich '04, who is currently taking the class, said that it is "more organized than some of the other classes here at MIT." He also feels that this year's competition is more challenging than in previous years.

The students work in teams of two or three, and each team is given the same kit which contains sensors, electronic components, batteries, motors and LEGO blocks. On top of this, teams must program an algorithm for their robots that will autonomously guide it on the playing field. The teams receive their kits at the beginning of IAP and have three weeks to complete their robots.

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Thursday, January 24  
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## Solution to Crossword

from page 13

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VENT	CAT	SCRADLE
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STATUE	FROG	
	ENMITY	LASSO
ADS	DISH	SIPHON
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Daniel A. Trujillo, the new associate dean for alcohol education and community development, discusses MIT's alcohol issues last night at Next House.

## Trujillo Hosts Forum On Campus Drinking

By Thomas J. Kilpatrick

MIT's new Associate Dean for Alcohol Education and Community Development, Daniel Trujillo, hosted the first of many on-campus discussions dealing with alcohol issues at Next House on Tuesday evening.

The entire MIT community was invited to attend Tuesday's forum. Trujillo has already hosted similar discussions at a few fraternity houses.

"At this point we're trying to get a feel for the community and the issues," Trujillo said. "We're also trying to work with the athletic department to set something up with some of the teams."

More than 20 members of the community showed up for free food and open discussion about alcohol issues. Trujillo emphasized early that he did not come to "preach abstinence." Rather, the forum focused on defining the role that alcohol plays in the MIT community and how students feel about this role.

### Community shares thoughts

Is alcohol a necessary part of the college experience? Do you think more than half of MIT students drink at least two times per week? Is it okay for students to drink under the age of 21? Is alcohol a problem at MIT? At Next House?

These were the open-ended questions which Trujillo asked to the attendees to begin the discussion.

Many of the responses to these questions by those in attendance seemed to differ substantially according to gender.

Only six people, all males, thought that alcohol was a necessary

part of the college experience, compared to thirteen who did not. Nine of the thirteen were women.

"It's an important part of your life to experience new things, but it's not necessary," said Bert Keith-Avril '05.

Only four students thought alcohol was a problem at MIT, but thirteen others thought it was not.

Keith A. Bonawitz '02 was in the minority. "Alcohol issues still need to be addressed," Bonawitz said. "I've seen a lot of students unwilling to call medical transport, or destroying property."

Stacy J. Morris G, a graduate resident tutor, agreed. "I get really nervous when I see closed doors and think people might be taking shots in there."

### Underage drinking discussed

Most of the attendees thought that underage drinking was okay in principle.

An international transfer student gave an interesting perspective on the alcohol situation. He said that he thought underage drinking was okay because there is a different cultural perspective of alcohol in most European countries.

However, dissenters to this opinion still made their opinions heard.

"It's illegal," said Katherine A. Leskin '05.

Morris supported the freshman. "I'm a little torn, but personally I didn't drink until I was 21."

The forum lasted for a little less than two hours, and at the end, those who remained felt it was worth their time, including Trujillo.

"I thought participation was excellent, and turnout was especially good considering it was in the middle of the week," Trujillo said.



Aramark Marketing Manager Richard Conrad and Executive Chef Peter Dumke congratulate 'Chef Boi GSC' team members Josh Barandon G, David Thompson G, and Chris Larson G on winning the Institute Culinary Challenge. The event, last held in 1998, was open to members of the MIT community and attracted thirteen teams who prepared three dishes — ranging from chicken chowder to Indian — from identical ingredients. Judges included Dean for Graduate Students Isaac M. Colbert and Becky Vest, wife of President Charles M. Vest. The winning team will be served a special dinner prepared by Chef Dumke.

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### MIT Department of FACILITIES

#### CAMPUS CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

##### Vassar St. Utilities

Drain construction is underway in front of the Stata Center site and continuing west toward Mass. Ave. Traffic can travel in both directions; truck and machine movement may cause delays.

##### Stata Center

Excavation for grade beams alongside Building 36 has started. Occupants of Building 36 may experience some noise and odor as work continues.

##### Simmons Hall

Installation of waterproofing, insulation, and windows is in progress. Excavation of the west end of Vassar St. for utility installation continues. This may affect traffic flow.

##### Zesiger Sports & Fitness Center

Roof work, dry wall framing, rough plumbing, and fireproofing continue, with special precautions regarding generation of noise. Accesses to W34 and Kresge Auditorium may be congested as construction continues.

##### Dreyfus Chemistry Building

Pedestrian access may be restricted between Buildings 16, 18, and 56 to accommodate staging.

##### Memorial Drive Traffic Signals

Work continues on Memorial Drive around the Endicott and Wadsworth Street intersections. Noise and dust directly adjacent to the construction may result.

For information on MIT's building program, see <http://web.mit.edu/evolving>  
This information provided by the MIT Department of Facilities.





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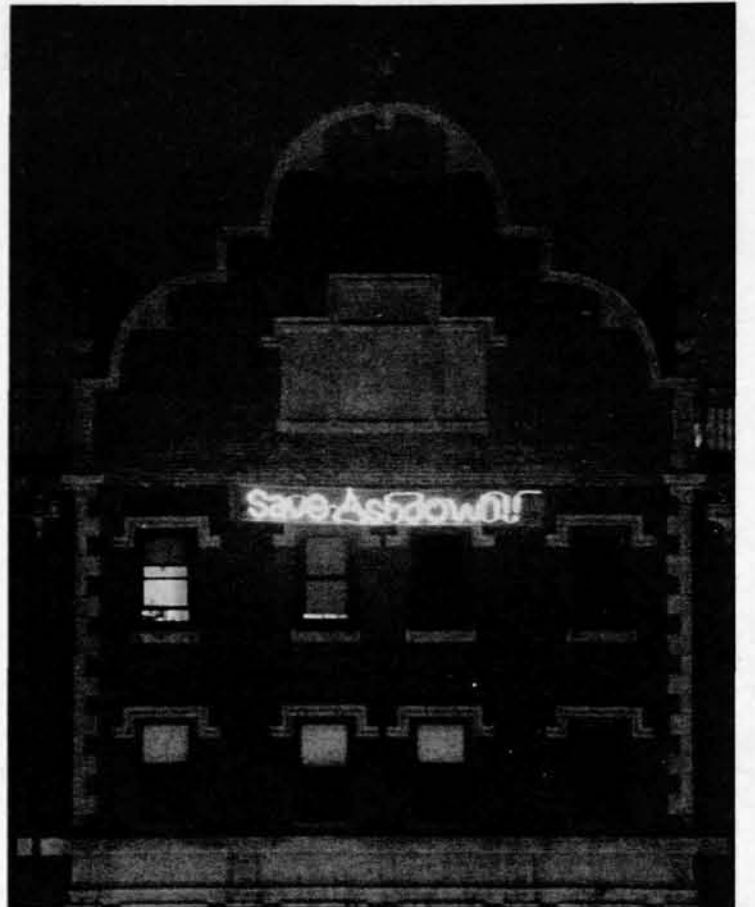


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A protest shines from the Amherst side of Ashdown House in reaction to plans to reserve space in graduate dormitories for undergraduate housing.

# Other Dorm Options Pushed By Ashdown

Ashdown, from Page 1

Many concerned graduate students and organizations have written to Clay to plea their case. On Friday, he responded with a long e-mail addressing some major concerns.

"We will be working with the housemasters, the leadership of the house, and with others to address the concerns voiced, including finding alternatives that minimize impacts or that represent creative ways to advance our mutual goal of community life," he wrote. "Ashdown residents are not the only ones with a stake in what we do. However, to the extent we create a risk to what I agree is a valuable and strong community at Ashdown, we will work hard to mitigate or eliminate that risk."

### Discussion to occur Friday

On Friday, the housemasters of the graduate dorms, the GSC, and other interested observers will meet in Clay's office. The GSC hopes to form a working group to address the problems facing all of the interested parties.

"We want a working group to meet and figure out the best option which minimizes the impact on the graduate housing system," said GSC President Dilan A. Seneviratne G.

"We want to get answers to questions like why Sidney-Pacific is not an option, is there a possibility of a subsidy for those displaced, and what his criteria are for meeting the overcrowding requirement," he said.

Graduate student leaders have been particularly upset with the feeling that this problem was sprung on them in the last minute.

"The problem of undergraduate crowding has existed for many years," Farver said. "They have known since 1998 that there would be this problem. They waited until the eleventh hour to announce that graduate beds would be used to alleviate crowding."

Clay insists that all proposals are in a preliminary stage.

"My outline of the problem and invitation to make input was open and honest. I shared my bias but not in a way that would foreclose input or lead someone to think the matter was all settled," Clay wrote in his e-mail.

He also stated that the original Feb. 12 deadline for making a decision no longer exists, so that the dialogue process could continue.

### Alternatives to Ashdown exist

Grad students argue that there are

a number of viable alternatives to housing the excess freshmen in Ashdown. They could be housed in other graduate dormitories such as Sidney-Pacific or Tang. The former will open in the fall, and the latter only houses first-year students, so neither has a community to displace if freshmen are housed there next year.

Another alternative would be the graduate dorms could absorb only seniors applying for M. Eng. spread thinly among all of them.

Ashdown residents, however, believe that it would be disastrous to take away 40 percent of their building.

"Sidney-Pacific probably will have a graduate community in a few years, but it doesn't at the moment," said fourth year Ashdown resident Ron O. Dror G. "It takes a long time to build [a community], and you can destroy it very easily."

"The issue the administration has to be cognizant that they must compete with their peers," Dror said. "Stanford houses over 60 percent of its graduate students, and they recently invested \$200 million in graduate housing. For many top students, quality of life is the top priority."

Farver also referred to Ashdown's dependence on first-year graduate students. Ashdown residents fill around 50 officer positions while trying to acquire points to move up to the scarcer singles and large doubles. If Ashdown cannot accept as many new students, it will not get as many ambitious officers, who play a vital role in the graduate community.

Another concern for current residents of Ashdown is the survival of Ashdown's Thirsty Ear Pub, another important part of the graduate community, whose presence in the graduate dormitory might be at risk if underage students moved into the dorm.

### Ashdown survived past threats

If history can predict the outcome of this battle, then it is on the side of the graduate student community. The administration has proposed housing undergraduates in Ashdown twice before in recent history. In 1999, a steering committee proposed housing freshmen in Ashdown and moving the graduate students to MacGregor. In 1994, another committee proposed renovating Senior House and moving its student population into Ashdown. In each of these cases, Ashdown residents and housemasters met the proposals with concerted opposition, and they were eventually dropped.



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# Deep Lineup Helps MIT Women

Women's Track, from Page 20

sonal best time. The 1000m runners were also successful. Leading the MIT runners, Julia C. Espel '05 finished the race in third. Following Espel were Nancy J. Benedetti '05 and Jillian L. Dempsey '05, who finished in sixth and eighth respectively.

In the 1500m run, distance superstar Martha W. Buckley '04 ran another New England Division III qualifying time of 5:01.34 to finish in third. In seventh was Benedetti set a personal record in the event.

Returning in the 3K was Buckley, who out ran her competitors for a triumphant win in an ECAC qualifying time of 10:43.69. Mealani K. Nakamura G ran a solid race to finish in seventh with a personal record time of 11:51.06.

## Imoukhuede qualifies for NCAA

In the field, personal records were ever-present, and an NCAA automatic qualifying standard was met. In the weight throw, Princess Imoukhuede '02 not only won the event, but also secured her place at the National Division III

Championships with a throw of 16.23 meters. Akua A. Asa-Awuku '03 placed fourth for MIT with another New England Division III qualifying mark of 40' 8". Rounding out the point scoring for MIT in this event was Bukola Aina '05, who set a personal record by almost 10 feet to throw 37' 3" and place eighth. In the shot put, Imoukhuede put up a good fight as she put a 39' 8" performance for a third place finish. Asa-Awuku also showed her throwing prowess as she finished in seventh.

The jumpers were a powerful force for the MIT team this past Saturday. Gupta, star jumper of the day, scissor kicked 4' 9" in the high jump for a second place and personal record finish. Emily Schwartz '05 finished right behind Gupta for a third place finish. Returning from her NCAA provisional performance in the pole vault, Tweedie set a personal record in the high jump as she finished in sixth. Using the same strategy as Gupta, Nyenke scissor kicked in the high jump for a personal record and seventh place performance. In the long jump, Gupta maintained her domination in the jumps, as she won the event in per-

sonal best and ECAC qualifying jump of 16' 4.5". Also showing her jumping expertise, Nyenke finished in second with a personal record and New England Division III qualifying jump of 16' 0.5". Miller and Quinlan also scored for MIT with sixth and eighth place finishes. Returning in the triple jump, Gupta destroyed her own rookie and varsity records, qualified for the All New England Championships, and won the event with a 36' 1.75" performance. Nyenke finished in sixth in an ECAC qualifying mark of 34' 6".

## Meet finishes with strong relays

The meet finished with the 4x400m and 4x800m relays. Running in the second place finishing 4x400m relay were Kuo, Poulson, Silberstein, and Eze. Receiving the baton in third, Silberstein made up ground, as she sped past her competitors to pass the baton off to Eze in first. Eze ran a solid race and the fastest leg for the relay. In the 4x800m, Espel gave MIT a good start against some tough competitors. Lehman, Gaugler, and Dempsey finished off the relay to take third and set the rookie record in the event.

# Williams Can't Catch MIT Despite Late Run

Men's Track, from Page 20

again, Matthew A. Lehman '03 and Gabriel N. Sanchez '05 finished second and third, respectively in the 400m with times of 51.82 and 52.41, and Yuval Mazor '02 and Jesse R. Alejandro '05 took second and fourth in the 600m in 1:22.98 and 1:24.27. Hoover and Russell A. Moriarity '04 both scored out of slower sections in the 400m, and Adrian E. Townsend '04 did the same in the 600m, as MIT outscored Williams in the long sprints, 34-24.

The middle distances were more of the same for MIT, as Anderson doubled back with a 1:58.21 in the 800m, leading Alan R. Raphael '02 and Mark N. Jeunnette '02 to a 1-2-3 sweep. Montgomery followed suit with a 2:32.73 to win the 1000m, followed by George R. Hanson '03 in second, and Craig B. Wildman '03 in fourth.

Back in the field events, Mielcarz led the way in the high jump, winning with a leap of 6' 7", and narrowly missing a national qualifying height at 6' 9.75". Rajter took second with a jump of 6' 5", and Neudecker and Hoover took fifth, and seventh. In the pole vault, all three MIT jumpers cleared 13' 3", with Nathan B. Ball '05 taking second in the event with a 13' 9" clearance. Daniel Y. Kwon '02 and Daniel F. Opila '03 took fifth and sixth, as MIT cleaned up in the vertical jumps.

## Williams makes late run in sprints

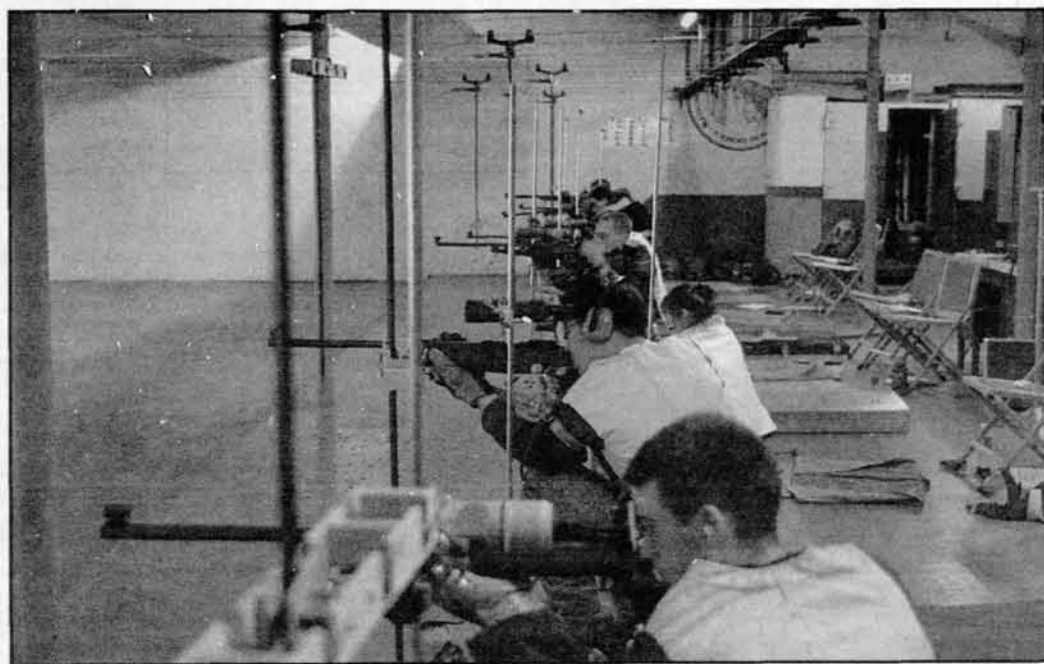
On the track, the tide started to turn late in the meet as Williams

took control of the sprints. With MIT's top sprinters Zachary J. Traina '05 and Jin Lin '05 suffering from hamstring injuries, MIT was overpowered in the 55m dash as David E. Kloster '05 and Robert H. Gray '02 managed only sixth and eighth places. The same was true in the 200m, where Mazor and Lehman doubled down, but could only achieve fifth and eighth, respectively. Even the field events turned sour for MIT as the throwers were shut out of scoring in the shot put.

However, it proved to be too little, too late, for an overmatched Williams team. MIT's distance crew took charge in the 3000m, as Nolan and Feldman doubled back to take second and third in 8:40.67, and 8:48.00, respectively. Benjamin A. Schmeckpeper '05 followed close behind in fourth with a time of 8:48.18. In the relays, MIT's depth proved to be too strong for Williams, as Mazor, Lehman, Sanchez, and Montgomery won the 1600m relay in 3:29.15, and Jeunnette, Raphael, Hanson, and Alejandro took the 3200m relay in 8:20.35.

The triple jumpers finished the meet off in style as Williamson and Neudecker both cleared 43 feet, to take 2-4, and Townsend grabbed sixth, giving MIT a 14-10 edge in the last event, and a definitive victory.

Next weekend MIT heads to Boston University to take on Bentley, Brandeis, Harvard, and Northeastern in the Greater Boston Invitational.



The MIT Rifle team held its annual Beanpot shoot-off and Intercollegiate Sectional on January 26 and 27. For the second year in a row, the US Coast Guard took home the traditional Beanpot trophy. MIT won team medallions for both Smallbore and Air Rifle in the Intercollegiate Sectional.

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## SPORTS

## MIT Gymnastics Falls to SCSU

By Ken Nesmith  
and David Hu  
TEAM MEMBERS

In their first home meet of the year, the MIT Mens' Gymnastics team lost to Southern Connecticut State University, scoring 144.35 to SCSU's 184.00.

The team fared well after working throughout the fall to strengthen their routines, but ultimately they were unable to defeat the able Connecticut team. However, indi-

viduals Damian M. Engen '03 and Patrick R. Griffin '05 scored 43.8 and 38.85 all-around scores respectively, the third and fifth highest all-around scores for that day.

After a slightly shaky start on floor, the team moved to pommel horse, one of the most difficult events. It appeared that both teams allowed apprehension to hinder their best work on the horse, as the routines were marked by falls and errors uncharacteristic of the athletes. Nonetheless, competitors from both teams did manage to deliver

visually stunning routines.

Engen performed well on the rings, after which the team moved to parallel bars, where they managed respectable performances but could nonetheless not match the impressive physical strength of the Connecticut team.

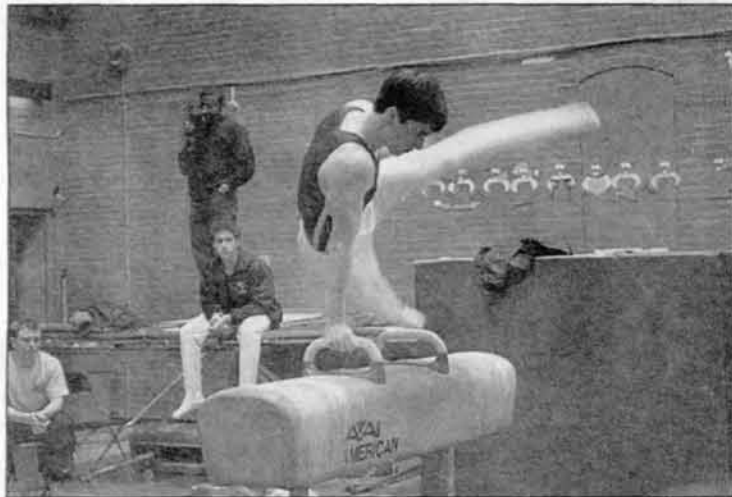
The team did not hold high hopes for the vaulting horse event, given that they practice the event only once in a week or two. They managed to perform a basic set of flips and layouts before moving on to the final event, the high bar.

On the high bar, team members drew on years of precollegiate gymnastics experience to present routines that, for perhaps the first time, appeared to match those of their competitors in difficulty and even to overcome them in form and grace. Team members agreed that it was a good way to end the meet.

Coach Joah Riskin was pleased with the progression of improvement throughout the meet, despite a few rough moments throughout the day.

"We should start the next meet the way we finished this one," Riskin said. "We'll have a strong season."

The team faces several opponents on the road before facing rival University of Vermont at home on Feb. 9.



Patrick R. Griffin '04 swings over the pommel horse against Southern Connecticut State University. MIT lost 144.3-184.0.

## Men's Track Dominates Williams, RPI, Westfield

By Yuval Mazor  
TEAM MEMBER

MIT and Williams have dominated New England D-III track for over 20 years, but the Ephs have had the upper hand for nearly a decade, including a 3.5 point heartbreaker last year. This past weekend, the Men's Indoor Track & Field Team traveled to Williamstown, Mass. to face their biggest rival, the Ephmen of Williams College.

With revenge on their minds, and one of the most talented teams MIT has ever had, the Engineers crushed Williams 253-198. RPI took third in 98, and Westfield State trailed the field with 39.

The meet started with the long jump and weight throw, and MIT looked to jump out to an early lead. Thomas M. Hoover '05 led the way for the jumpers with a leap of 21-7 1/2, good for second place. Craig D. Mielcarz '03, Victor L. Williamson '04, and Austin K. Neudecker '05 took the last three scoring places, as all three were over 20 feet. However, Williams took first and fifth places, and the Engineers had to be satisfied splitting the event, 13-13.

On the other side of the track, Christopher J. Khan '04 led the weight throwers, winning with a National Qualifying mark of 53' 9". Marios Michalakos '04, David P.

Saylor '04, and Peter J. Bluvass G took three of the next five places, as MIT outscored Williams 23-7.

The 1500m kicked off the first running finals on the track, and MIT stacked the event, hoping to score big early and still be able to double their runners back. The gamble worked as Sean Montgomery G continued his undefeated season with a 3:57.44 time, easily winning the race and qualifying for nationals. Brian C. Anderson '04, Sean Nolan '03, and Daniel R. Feldman '02 finished in second, fourth, and fifth, respectively.

In the 55m high hurdles, Victor L. Williamson '04 had a two tenth of a second improvement, leading MIT with a 7.95 and second place showing. Richard F. Rajter '04 finished right behind Williamson in third, with Junius K. Ho G, and Mielcarz taking fifth and sixth.

## Strong start did not seal win

Even with strong early performances and a big lead, MIT was wary of Williams. In each of the previous three meeting with the Ephs, MIT had jumped out to an early lead, only to watch Williams come back in the middle distances, and sprints. Last year, Williams had used the 400m and 600m to start their comeback, crushing the Engineers by twenty points between the two events.

Determined not to let that happen

Men's Track, Page 19



Kip M. Johann-Berkel '02 (L) runs in against his Bridgewater State opponent during a wrestling match last Wednesday.



Crystal A. Russell '03 evades the Wellesley defense during the women's basketball game last weekend.

## UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Wednesday, January 30

Wrestling vs. Rhode Island College, 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, February 2

Men's Hockey vs. Connecticut College, 8:00 p.m.

Men's Squash vs. Fordham, 1:00 p.m.

Men's Swimming vs. Middlebury, 1:00 p.m.

Women's Gymnastics vs. Bridgeport and SUNY Rockport, 2:00 p.m.

Women's Hockey vs. Sacred Heart, 4:00 p.m.

Rifle vs. Trinity College, 9:00 a.m.

Sunday, February 3

Women's Hockey vs. Manhattanville College, 1:00 p.m.

Pistol, USA Shooting Open, 9:00 a.m.

## Men's Squash Team Drops Three

Losses to Higher-Ranked Teams Have No Impact on National Ranking

By Robert Aronstam  
STAFF WRITER

The squash team lost three matches last week at the hands of Trinity, Amherst, and Wesleyan Colleges, causing MIT's overall record to drop to 2-7. Since the losses were against higher-ranked opponents, MIT's national ranking will remain 21st out of the 36 National Intercollegiate Squash Racquets Association (NISRA) teams.

Last Wednesday, the squash team took on both Amherst College and Trinity College. MIT has rarely beaten Amherst in the history of the squash program. Amherst, however, has been vulnerable to defeat in recent years, as indicated by MIT's win in the 1999-2000 season. Unfortunately, MIT was unable to duplicate this feat this year.

Against Amherst, MIT's top players were all competitive, while the bottom of the lineup struggled. The

top two players, Kunal K. Surana '02 and Simon C. Bradbury (CMI), both won their matches. Bradbury's match was a three-game drubbing. Naveen Goela '03, playing in the number three position, lost a tough five-game affair. After winning the first two games, Goela succumbed to fatigue and was unable to secure the victory.

## Trinity easily defeats MIT

Trinity College, the top-ranked team in the nation, easily beat MIT in Wednesday's second match. Trinity, as is custom, did not bring all of their top players to face a clearly outmatched opponent. However, Trinity's top player, Bernardo Samper, did make the trip to face MIT. Samper, a former Colombian national champion, is also the top ranked individual player in the nation.

While most of the Trinity-MIT matches were predictably lopsided, there was one exception. Tyler B. Horton '03, MIT's number four

player, nearly pulled off a phenomenal upset. Horton won the third and fourth games of his match. Prior to the contest, winning a single game from a Trinity opponent was deemed impossible. However, Horton defiantly proved this theory wrong by claiming two games before dropping the decisive fifth game. The final score of his match was 5-9, 6-9, 9-7, 9-7, 1-9.

## Engineers lose to Wesleyan

MIT was hopeful of the first win over a higher ranked opponent in Friday's match against Wesleyan College. The likelihood of this was diminished before the match began, however, as MIT was without one of their top players. This forced nearly all of the players to play a spot higher than usual.

Surana continued his outstanding season with a win. He was joined by Goela, who won in the number two spot. MIT did not win any of their remaining matches, making the final score 2-7.

## Women's Track Second at Williams Meet

By Adeline Kuo  
TEAM CO-CAPTAIN

This past Saturday, the MIT Women's Track team traveled to Williams College to compete against Williams, RPI, and Westfield State. MIT finished with an impressive 197 points for second place, behind Williams College's 266.5 but ahead of RPI (111) and Westfield State (18.5). Personal records were shattered and two NCAA standards were met.

In the pole vault, Vanessa Li '02 topped her personal best and the MIT varsity record with a final vault of 11' 3.75" to automatically qualify for the NCAA Championships. Li not only won the event, but also set a field house record at Williams College.

Catherine A. Tweedie '04 exhibited both her excellence and consistency in the vault, as she again cleared an NCAA provisional qualifying height of 10' 4.25". Tweedie finished in fourth place. Returning

from injuries, Emily B. Fox '04 vaulted an impressive 8' 3" to take eighth place.

In the 55m dash, MIT sprinters finished in a nice 1-2-4-5 sweep. Adeline L. Kuo '02 won the event in 7.88 seconds. In a close race for second place, freshman sprinter phenom Shauntel Poulson edged out her competitors with an 8.02 finish. Chinwe P. Nyenke '04 snuck in among the top finishers in fourth in 8.04 seconds. Rounding out MIT's 25 points in the 55m was Meredith N. Silberstein '05, who finished in fifth in 8.06 seconds. In the 200m dash, Kuo finished in a close second in 28.32 seconds. Running out of a different heat and without competition, Poulson ran an effortless race and finished in third in 28.73 seconds. Also scoring points for MIT in the 200m was Sandra S. Quinlan '05, who ran a personal best time of 29.74 and placed sixth overall.

## Deep hurdling squad helps team

The hurdlers also made a great contribution to the team's efforts as they came across the finish line in

third, fourth, and sixth places. Nyenke not only showed her talent in the dash, but also exemplified her prowess in the hurdles as she crossed the finish line in third in a personal best and New England Division III qualifying time of 9.61 seconds. Nalini Gupta '05 finished in fourth in 9.75 seconds and Colleen A. Horin '05 hurdled with great precision to finish in sixth in 9.96 seconds.

The longer sprints and middle distance races also picked up critical points. Scoring for MIT in the 400m dash were Gupta, Didi Eze '05, and Melanie A. Miller '04, who finished in sixth, seventh, and eighth, respectively. In the 600m dash, Alisa P. Lehman '05 finished in seventh, while Shirleen X. Poon '05 debuted in the event with an eighth place finish. Returning from the 55m dash, Silberstein exhibited her versatility as she finished in fifth in the 800m run. Also in the 800m was Jennifer A. Gaugler '05, who finished the race in seventh place and in a per-

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